

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE

JANUARY 16, 2015

VOLUME 34, NUMBER 20
austinchronicle.com

ATX BREAKS

**It Took 20 Years,
but Austin Finally
Seeded a True
Hip-Hop Scene**

BY CHASE HOFFBERGER • P.58

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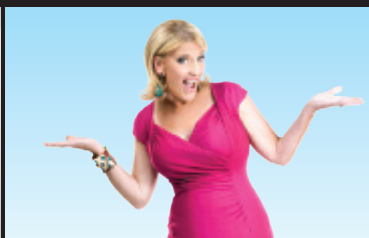
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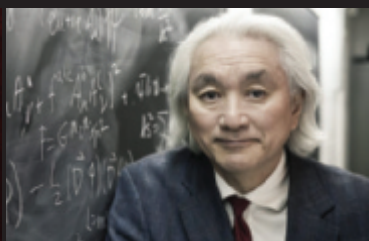
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MARCH 6 & 7 - STATESIDE



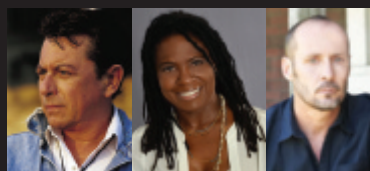
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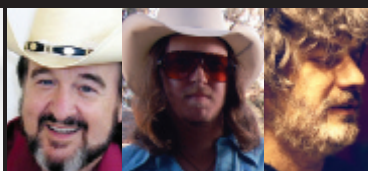
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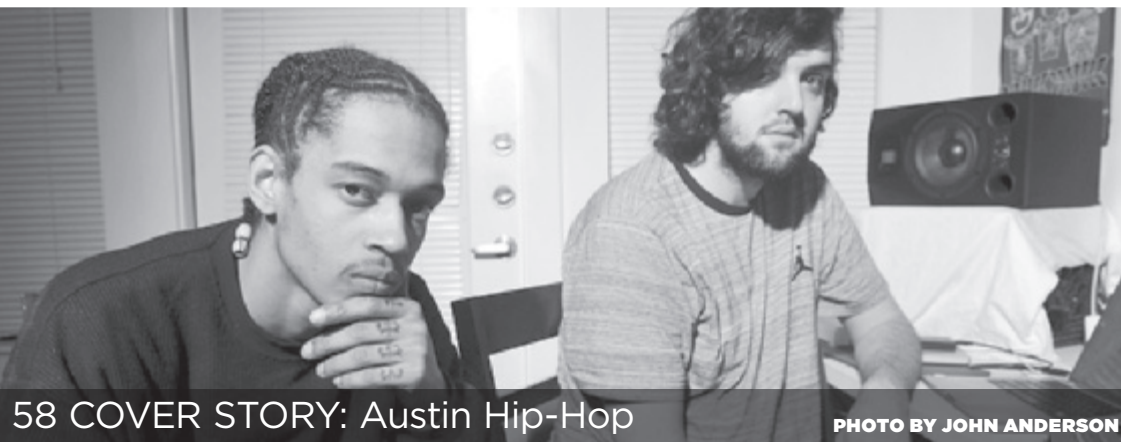
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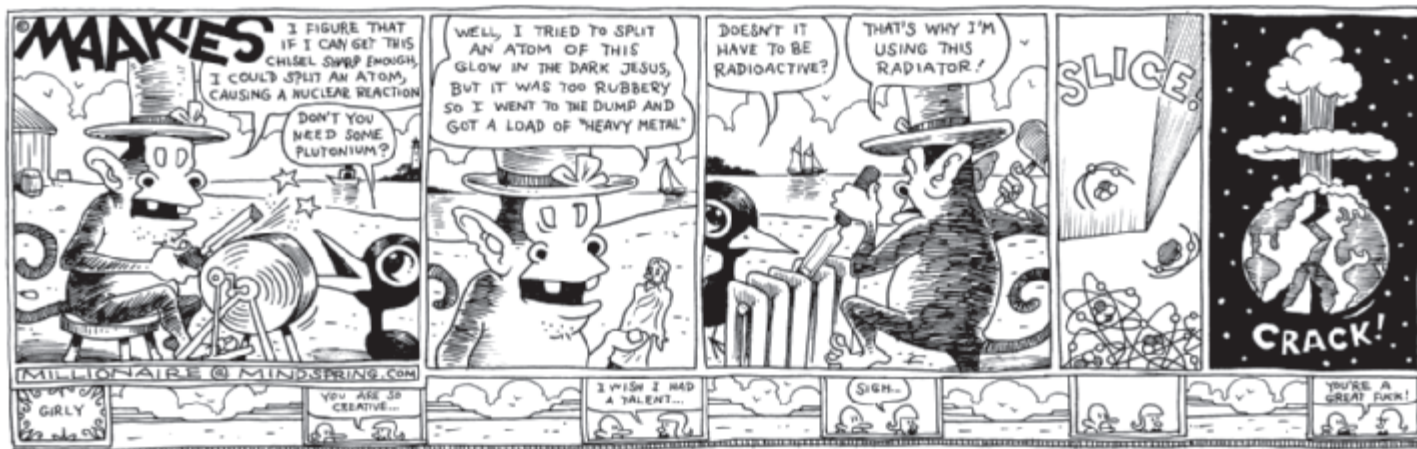
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UPDATED DAILY
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POSTMARKS

FEEDBACK LETTERS & COMMENTS

YOU GET WHAT YOU VOTE FOR

Dear Editor,

So, our "Rail or Fail" Mayor Leffingwell reminds us that there are some 860,000 people in Austin, and it's hard to remember that when confronted by 200 loud voices in the chamber ["Quote of the Week," News, Jan. 9].

Perhaps if he'd been more of a leader, less confrontational, and paid more attention to the issues of those various 200 people, he'd have been elected in 2012 by more than a paltry 10% of Austin voters.

Voter apathy in Austin is legend, and you get what you vote for.

Mark Cathcart

ACHIEVING THE OPPOSITE

Dear Editor,

The recent killing of the editor and staff of French magazine *Charlie Hebdo* in the name of defending the honor of the Prophet Muhammad of Islam is extremely sad and should be condemned by all. Those who commit such acts bring Islam and the Prophet Muhammad into disrepute and achieve exactly the opposite of what they set out to achieve.

Throughout his life, the Prophet Muhammad showed compassion toward those who disrespected and persecuted him. When a lady who used to throw trash on him every day stopped, he went to her house to check on her health, finding her to be sick. His response to Abdullah bin Ubayy, who insulted and plotted against him repeatedly was "let us deal with him kindly," and upon his death, he led Abdullah's funeral prayers. Respect of the Prophet is in following his example of forbearance instead of taking innocent lives for fake standards.

Yasir Mirza

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community
Round Rock

MAKING OUR WORK HARDER

Dear Editor,

I am the staffer responsible for SB 108, which is referenced in the article you wrote on Jan. 9 ["Criminal Justice: Mercy at the Margins," News]. Your description of the bill – "Whitmire has his own bill, SB 108, designed to make it tougher for minors to be exonerated from crimes they did commit" – is wrong. Senator Whitmire's bill does nothing of the sort. In fact, it allows for minors to have more than one expunction for this type of offense. I believe you saw the removed language and did not actually read the bill. The removed language, not more than one, eliminates the restriction on how many can be expunged.

This is a serious error that makes the work we do harder. This needs to be corrected and, in the future, please understand what you are writing about.

Terra Tucker

[Editor's note: Thanks for the correction, and we apologize for the error. The story has been corrected online and a correction ("Oops!") also appears in this edition. (We'll resist the impulse to respond in kind.)]

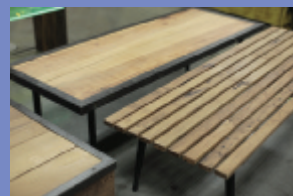
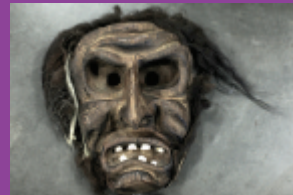
CLEARING UP CONFUSION

Dear Editor,

Hey, city of Austin, you seem to be confused over several facts, so let me clear them up for you: Winter is cold. Rain is wet. Cyclo-cross is muddy. New Year's Eve is a specific date, which cannot be canceled.

Now that everything is understood, can we have our events back? And while you're at it, bring back Aquafest as well. Sincerely, a resident who cannot afford the hefty C3 bribe apparently needed to keep my favorite events running.

Jason Abels



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NEWS



QUOTE of the WEEK

“No more pink shoe drama for SD 10!”

– State Sen. Konni Burton, R-Colleyville, who won Wendy Davis’ former seat and was sworn in Tuesday wearing a pair of boots reading “Stand for Life.”

HEADLINES

NO FORMAL CITY Council meeting this week, though the **new 10-1 crew** has been having orientation sessions with city staff at the **Downtown Hilton**, and planning structural changes to Council business, to be discussed in a public hearing Jan. 22, then considered on Jan. 29. See Public Notice, p.10, and “Council: Hilton Honeymoon,” p.12.

THE ANNUAL COMMUNITY march and rally honoring the life of **Martin Luther King Jr.** will begin 9am Monday at UT-Austin’s East Mall and proceed to the **Huston-Tillotson Univ.** campus where events and entertainment continue until 3pm. Participants are asked to bring canned goods or nonperishable items for donation at UT or H-T.

TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS Court asked for a delay this week in an agreement between the **Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District** and the **Texas Dept. of Transportation** concerning planned construction of **SH 45 SW**, which opponents called an attempt to evade environmental standards for the project, although the parties say it’s an attempt to enhance standards in a 1990 agreement.

THE COURT OF Criminal Appeals this week rejected the appeal of **Milton Gobert**, sentenced to death for the 2003 murder in Austin of **Mel Cotton** and the attempted murder of her 5-year-old son. Gobert has federal appeals pending.

RASHAD OWENS POSTED in court on Thursday, though very little happened. Judge **Cliff Brown** noted that he’d like to hear Owens’ case in 2015. Owens, 22, has been in custody since March, charged with capital murder, murder, and aggravated assault for the incident that killed four last SXSW.

THE 84TH SESSION of the **Texas Legislature** began with a lengthy speech by Secretary of State **Nandita Berry** that got Twitter giggling with constant references to fast food joints around the state. Now the laughter stops, as serious business begins (see p.14).

OPEN CARRY ADVOCATES shot themselves in the foot after video was released of a group making statements interpreted as veiled threats to **Rep. Poncho Nevárez**, D-Eagle Pass, and calling him a “tyrant.” Gun rights organization **Open Carry Texas** quickly distanced itself from their actions.

LINDA BRIDGES, PRESIDENT of the state’s biggest teachers’ union, **Texas AFT**, died unexpectedly of natural causes on Jan. 12. **American Federation of Teachers** President **Randi Weingarten** said, “Our union has lost a great leader, and I’ve lost a true friend.”

WITH CUPCAKE IN hand, the state’s new Agricultural Commissioner, **Sid Miller**, reminded Texas parents the rules restricting sugary snacks in classrooms have been lifted. “[T]he government here in Texas is getting out of your lives.” Too bad Miller didn’t apply the same restraint toward women’s bodies – as a state senator in 2011, he authored the state’s **pre-abortion sonogram law**, one of the most intrusive anti-choice bills in the country.



Members of the Texas Senate get sworn-in on Tuesday, Jan. 13, the first day of the 84th Legislative session. Exiting Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst relinquishes his post to presiding officer of the Senate, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, R-Houston (not pictured here).

Welcome Back!

SHOCK, AWE, AND HYPOCRISY RETURN TO THE DOME

The 84th Legislature has barely begun, and we’ve already got officials competing for Clown of the Week. Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller – earlier known, from his authorship of an anti-abortion ultrasound bill, as the Man With the Vaginal Wand – announced that “the government here in Texas is getting out of your lives.” He was announcing a “cupcake amnesty” for parents wishing to bring cupcakes or other sweets to public school for their offsprings’ birthdays. Miller wasn’t even right on the substance – nothing in state regulations prevents schoolchildren from celebrating birthdays in the conventional way, cupcakes and all – but the level of hypocrisy he achieved in the wake of his invasion of the bodily privacy of Texas women was breathtaking.

POINT
AUSTIN
BY
MICHAEL
KING

We can expect a lot of that sort of thing this year. A few days before Miller’s grab for TV face-time, incoming Gov. Greg Abbott was denouncing the “California-zation” of Texas – that is, some local communities are regulating single-use plastic bags, heritage trees, and – horrors! – hydrocarbon fracking. When he’s suing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on behalf of Texas’ unfettered right to pollute the state’s air and water, Abbott is all about “local control” – and he’s also especially prone to the usual political boilerplate on the subject, when defending local school districts from “unfunded state mandates.” But now, when a few local communities (Austin, Dallas, and others) attempt to defend their communities against the waste, expense, and pollution of ubiquitous plastic bags –

suddenly Abbott is contemplating state mandates to oppose “collectivism.”

Abbott’s likely more worried about the growing backlash against fracking – recently banned in the hardly liberal redoubt of Denton – than he is about plastic bags or even protected tree cover – but he exemplifies the attitude of state Republicans toward local initiatives that are contrary to the priorities of state Republicans. When the folks over in West Lake Hills – which makes Austin look like Odessa when it comes to tree protection – get in his ear, we’ll hear very little more on that subject.

SMALL GOVERNMENT, WELL-ARMED

But the circus is indeed back in town, and it will be difficult to focus on the big tent when the sideshows are so mesmerizing. On opening day, the gun crazies were out in force, manufacturing weaponry at the South Gate and attempting to intimidate

CONTINUED ON P.10

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POINT AUSTIN CONTINUED FROM P.8

legislators not immediately on board with their demand for “constitutional carry” – that is, no regulation or licensing of weaponry, whatsoever. And on the floor of the House, an equally-deluded group of enthusiasts were attempting to oust Speaker Joe Straus, whose major sin is that he has bipartisan support. After rival Rep. Scott Turner, R-Richardson, was trounced, 127-19 (winning a few votes more than predicted), Northeast Tarrant County Tea Party President Julie McCarty told the *American Statesman* that legislators “acting on fear of Straus” (presumably for committee appointments) was “equivalent to negotiating with terrorists.”

The gun nuts promise to return (indeed, a few of them are reps), which means the “panic buttons” newly authorized by the House after this latest episode (since when should a Capitol staff member have to endure armed bullies?) will probably be put to good use. But you have to ask, what about the rest of us? When a few of these narcissistic idiots come marching into our neighborhood Chipotle’s, will “Stand Your Ground” apply to the regular customers? As for the “terrorists” – I suppose Speaker Straus is now a designated member – let’s hope they can defend against the worst of the dismally tyrannical measures bubbling up from the “small government” Tea Partiers nibbling away at the Capitol.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

All this is indeed a sideshow, and on the big issues acknowledged even by the leadership – education, health care, transportation – the early signs are that little will be accomplished beyond grandstanding. On education funding, it appears the ongoing school funding litigation will be allowed, via state appeal, to drag into the next biennium, rather than finally grapple with the fundamental underfunding and inequities of public school system (higher education is little more than afterthought). Although the state is momentarily flush, says the comptroller, let’s sacrifice another generation of students on the altar of property tax cuts.

Similarly, the health care of millions of uninsured Texans will be secondary to both tax cuts and ideological attacks on Obamacare, even though expanding Medicaid would not just provide regular care to many who go without, but draw down billions for Texas hospitals and the state economy that will instead go elsewhere. Having already decimated by regulation the reproductive health care system for hundreds of thousands of Texas women, the leadership will hardly blink at turning their backs on the rest of the uninsured.

Maybe we’ll spend some money on highways – death and taxes may be sure things elsewhere, but in Texas, we guarantee highways and prisons. We’ll see how far we can stretch that suddenly diminishing oil and gas windfall on poured concrete – and let the uninsured and their schoolchildren make do on homemade sweets.

Have yourself a strawberry cupcake, with thanks to the ag commissioner. ■

Going With the Flow

CHARTING THE NEW COUNCIL’S PROGRESS

City Council members are in the midst of a three-day orientation program that began Jan. 8 with presentations by City Manager **Marc Ott** and Mayor **Steve Adler**. Other presentations from high-ranking city staff – the city attorney, city auditor, financial officers, and others – on legal, procedural, and operational matters, continued Jan. 13, and will conclude today, Jan. 15, with an **“Issues We Want to Tackle”** session, and wrap-up remarks from the mayor.

These draft proposals are still being worked through, and bought into, by the individual Council members, but it’s clear that this is the blueprint for the future workings of the Council:

- **More frequent Council meetings**, to avoid long agendas and “foster greater public participation”

- **More management of the agendas**, with items grouped by topic, and executive sessions split off when possible, to save time for staff and public and to provide more reliable “time certain” for testimony and discussion.

(“Example: week 1 and 3 zoning, week 2 and four other items.”)

- A heavily beefed-up **Council committee system**, with a proposed **13 committees** instead of seven, and a much more public role for them, with most public hearings moved to this stage in the process, and committee agendas and minutes more accessible and widely publicized.

- A fourth step, aimed at **“longer term improvements for public engagement”** is more tentative, but envisions looking into creating a **mediator** position to reduce conflict, setting up a **Public Engagement Task Force** to look at best practices, and **aligning** the city’s **citizen commissions with Council committees** to enhance workflow and follow-

through on commission recommendations and input.

An unfortunate **early infographic** – seemingly designed to show how hard it was going to be for citizens to get to talk to Council – has quietly disappeared, replaced by a draft chart – **“How an Item Moves to City Council Meeting”** – that gives

Austin residents equal footing with commissions, Council members, and City staff. So, good on them. See the draft proposals for Council meetings, committees, and public input, at www.austintexas.gov/departments/city-council/2015/20150108-spec.htm.

Meanwhile, city business continues to flow through the pipeline, even as the new Council tries to re-route it. **Planning Commission** considered a few thorny cases at its Monday meeting, splitting the baby on a set of controversial variances to the **Waterfront Overlay**, then musing publicly from the dais about how much longer they’d be serving. There’s no word yet on the timeline for the new Council to make its board and commission appointments, or what that replacement process might look like. With some 68 standing boards and commissions currently hanging fire, representing some 700 citizen commissioners, that process could wind up taking longer, and being more contentious, than the Council process itself. Never fear: There’s already a **Boards and Commissions Transition Taskforce** on the job, consisting of veteran members of 15 of the most prominent B&Cs.

□



“An unfortunate early infographic – seemingly designed to illustrate how hard it was going to be for citizens to get to talk to the council – has quietly disappeared.”

THE AUSTIN HUMANE SOCIETY is kicking off its **11th Annual Car Raffle** to raise money for homeless pets. Win a brand-new 2015 **Mazda MX-5 Miata**, donated by Roger Beasley Mazda. Tickets are \$20 each, or three for \$50. Only 5,000 tickets are sold; all proceeds go directly to support the animals at AHS. Adults only. Buy online at www.austinhumanesociety.org.

HERE’S A PITCH YOU DON’T SEE OFTEN: Run a 5K in a gorilla suit to benefit mountain gorillas. You can start off slowly, this Saturday, Jan. 24 at the **Gorilla Pub Crawl**, starting at 4pm at Banger’s Sausage House, 81 Rainey. The actual **Austin 5K Gorilla Run to Benefit Mountain Gorillas** is at Mueller Park, 9am Saturday, Jan. 31. For info on how to register – and to buy your gorilla suit – visit www.austingorillarun.com.

HAVEN’T WE HIRED THIS GUY ALREADY?

The answer would be no, and in fact, AISD has three more **public forums** where you can meet presumptive district Superintendent **Paul Cruz**:

4pm Thu., Jan. 15, at Summit Elementary, 12207 Brigadoon;

6pm Wed., Jan. 21, at Austin High, 1715 W. Cesar Chavez; and 10am Sat., Jan. 24, at Crockett High, 5601 Manchaca.

AS OF THE FIRST OF THE YEAR, Austin Energy has lowered the price to subscribe to its **GreenChoice® plan**, from an extra penny per kilowatt-hour, to $\frac{3}{4}$ of a penny per kWh for both residential and commercial customers. On an average 1,000 kWh monthly bill, that translates to \$7.50 instead of \$10; for that, customers receive 100% renewable power from Texas wind. ■

Send gossip, dirt, insults, flow charts, and other useful grist to nbarbaro@austinchronicle.com.

CIVICS 101 DUTY NOW FOR THE FUTURE

THURSDAY 1/15

DROUGHT! Austin Water holds a public workshop to discuss recommendations from the Water Resource Task Force about implementing Stage 3 water use restrictions, and setting triggers that would lead to Stage 4 being declared. AW staff will outline the public input process, and discuss options with citizens & stakeholders. 7-8:30pm. *Austin Water HQ, 625 E. 10th, Rm. 104. RSVP to watercon@austintexas.gov or 512/974-2199.*

BURNET RD./ANDERSON LN. CORRIDOR PLANNING A panel discussion of the upcoming corridor planning process: Don Leighton-Burwell (Brentwood NA), Steven Zettner (president, Sustainable Neighborhoods), and Allan McMurtry (Allandale NA CodeNext committee) present three visions for the corridors. Q&A will follow. 7-8:30pm. *Yarborough Library, 2200 Hancock Dr.*

VRA 50TH ANNIVERSARY Learn about the Voting Rights Act, and celebrate the right to vote in a mass swearing-in of Travis County volunteer deputy registrars by Voter Registrar Bruce Elfant (expected to take place at 3:45pm). 2pm. *LBJ Library.*

SATURDAY 1/17

MILLIONS MARCH TEXAS: BLACK LIVES MATTER Meet by the MLK statue for a march to honor Dr. King’s legacy by demanding justice for people of color killed by misuse of police force. The march will travel from the UT campus to the Texas Capitol. Noon. *UT East Mall. www.fb.com/events/741377612605294.*

MONDAY 1/19

MLK COMMUNITY MARCH The annual march brings together the people of Austin to reflect on Dr. King’s message of civil rights and social justice. It begins with a short program at the MLK statue, then begins travel at around 9:45am, ending at the festival and food drive at Huston-Tillotson University. 9am. *UT East Mall. www.mlkcelebration.com.*

MLK COMMUNITY FESTIVAL The MLK Community Festival kicks off as soon the march arrives on location and will last until 3pm, with all types of vendors and local musical artists to make this year’s celebration the best ever! *Huston-Tillotson University, 900 Chicon. www.mlkcelebration.com.*

MLK COMMUNITY FOOD DRIVE Bring canned goods and other nonperishable food items to the MLK March and Festival to donate to the Capital Area Food Bank. Donation receptacles will be available at *UT and HT campuses.*

TUESDAY 1/20

2015 TEXAS INAUGURATION Oath of Office Ceremony: 11am-noon. *Texas State Capitol. Parade: 2-4pm. Congress Avenue. www.2015texasinauguration.com.*

P.A.C.T. PATIENT LOBBY DAY *Texas State Capitol, 1300 N. Congress. Free. www.fb.com/groups/pacttx.*

OAK HILL PARKWAY OPEN HOUSE TxDOT and the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority host an open house for the US 290/SH 71 West corridor, between MoPac and RM 1826. 4:30-7pm, *Covington Middle School, 3700 Convict Hill Rd.* Or visit the virtual open house online: Jan. 21-30 at www.oakhillparkway.com.

WEDNESDAY 1/21

LONE STAR REGIONAL RAIL PROJECT OPEN HOUSE The Lone Star Rail District will discuss a rail line that could connect communities from north of Austin all the way to San Antonio. 5-8 pm. *Carver Museum & Library, 1165 Angelina St.* Or give feedback on the virtual open house through Feb. 27: www.eis.lonestarrail.com.

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11126 JOLLYVILLE RD. (AT BALCONES WOODS DR.) 346-8845

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Kleinert's Next Defense

ATTORNEYS MOVE TO SHIFT APD SHOOTING CASE TO FEDERAL COURT

Last December, Judge **David Wahlberg** scheduled the manslaughter trial of former Austin Police Department Detective **Charles Kleinert** to begin April 20 in Travis County Court. The prosecution of Kleinert, a police officer who shot and killed an unarmed black man, stood in sharp contrast to other cases across the country where local prosecutors failed to secure indictments for seemingly similar crimes. With a trial date determined, it appeared that the family and friends of **Larry Jackson Jr.**, the man shot and killed by Kleinert, were one step closer to seeing justice done.

But on Dec. 31, Kleinert's attorneys filed a motion that is likely not only to delay their client's trial, but could also keep it out of a Travis County court altogether. In its motion for removal, the defense argues that Kleinert, who was part of the **Central Texas Violent Crime Task Force**, was acting in his capacity as a federal officer at the time of Jackson's death, and therefore can only be prosecuted in federal court.

The motion immediately introduced several complicated questions. First of all, a motion for removal to federal court is extremely rare in criminal cases, as Judge **Lee Yeakel**, who heard the motion, pointed out in a conference last Friday. He said it was the first time in his 11 years on the bench that he'd seen it. Generally, if someone is accused of violating a state law, the state courts have jurisdiction. However, a case can be removed to federal court if it involves a question of federal law. Kleinert is asserting that, as a federal officer, he has a defense under federal law to prosecution.

Whether Kleinert was in fact acting as a federal officer when he decided to pursue Jackson on foot, commandeer a bystander's car, unholster his gun, and then attempt to physically subdue Jackson will be determined in an evidentiary hearing in federal court. On Tuesday, Jan. 13, Yeakel



The parents of Larry Jackson Jr.



APD Detective Charles Kleinert

announced that the defense's motion for removal was "well-pleaded," and could therefore be considered by his court. The defense will present evidence that Kleinert had been deputized to act as a federal officer, and it was part of his duties as a federal officer to investigate crimes such as the one he suspected Jackson of trying to commit. (Kleinert has claimed that he thought Jackson was trying to defraud a

bank.) The state will present evidence that Kleinert was not, in fact, acting within the scope of his duties as a federal officer at the time of the shooting. If nothing else, the evidentiary hearing, set for March 3, should give observers a chance to see Kleinert take the stand.

While it may be tricky to determine in what capacity he acted, the defense Kleinert would like to assert will raise

far more difficult issues, should matters get to that point. In the motion for removal, Kleinert claims that as a federal officer, he would in fact be immune from prosecution by the state. Constitutional law immunizes federal officers from state prosecution when they believe they're acting "reasonably" while performing their federal duties. As Kleinert's attorneys wrote in their motion, quoting an earlier case, this is "a seldom-litigated corner of the constitutional law of federalism." So if Kleinert is able to successfully assert this defense – a big "if" – he could escape prosecution.

Finally, a change of venue would mean a change from the rules of a Travis County courtroom, which allows cameras and other recording devices, to the rules of a federal courtroom, which strictly prohibits such things. It would also mean a wider jury pool, encompassing the more conservative counties surrounding Travis. Jackson's sister **LaKiza** told the *Chronicle* that she doesn't like the idea that Kleinert might not be in front of a Travis County jury. "It is important that Kleinert face a Travis County jury because this is the county in which he committed the crime of murder," she wrote. (Jackson's family and other advocates believe that Kleinert should have been indicted for murder, rather than manslaughter.) "Kleinert commandeered a civilian's car in Travis County, he murdered Larry in Travis County, he retired from law enforcement in Travis County, a Travis County grand jury indicted him, so the trial should be held in Travis County."

Jackson's family and supporters are understandably frustrated with this turn in the case. The man they believe is guilty of murder is out on bond while his lawyers craft a formidable challenge to the state's case. Yet it's a defense lawyer's duty to provide his client the best possible representation, and Kleinert's attorneys are acting zealously in their efforts on his behalf.

And so another question observers of this case might ask: Why does the justice system work so much better for some defendants than others?

– Amy Kamp

COUNCIL: HILTON HONEYMOON

The new **City Council** is still in the January honeymoon stage, with no decisions to be made before Jan. 29, and at this writing sojourning at the **Downtown Hilton** for orientation with city staff – of course, they'll have to relearn where all the bathrooms are when they return to City Hall. (In an early blow to "transparency," the orientation is not being narrowcast or archived on Channel 6.) State legislators learn "How a Bill Becomes a Law" (i.e., months of private backroom meetings, negotiation, and compromise, leading to grandiose rhetoric on the Capitol floor in the last three weeks of session, followed by members pushing their colleagues' electronic vote buttons). Council members are learning "**How a Resolution Becomes an Ordinance**" (backroom meetings forbidden by order of the same Legislature, so members find out what's going on only in public meetings, get regularly blindsided by unexpected proposals, and brainstorm, negotiate, compromise, and vote on the wing).

It was amusing to see the members confounded (as reported in the *Statesman*) by Travis County Attorney **David Escamilla's** explanation of the **open meetings laws**, which sole incumbent CM **Kathie Tovo** (District 9) noted was in exact contradiction to the post-**Escamilla Scandal** practice at City Hall: "It is permissible to talk with up to 10 other members individually outside a meeting [the *Statesman* reports Escamilla directed] so long as it's either in small groups under six people [the new quorum number] or you're not sharing information about how others might vote with other members." That sounds like eminently reasonable advice – and exactly what had been the practice among the previous Council members before the heavy hand of the county attorney threatened the whole group with indictment for that long-traditional process (see "Open and Shut," Oct. 26, 2012).

At least one CM (**Ora Houston**, D1), was sufficiently confused by Escamilla's instruc-

tions to suggest that members speak to one another only in public meetings (she should suggest that at the Lege). Another work-in-progress is for everybody to get more familiar with the Council "message board," still a seldom-used communication utility (www.austincouncilforum.org). As of Wednesday, only **Ann Kitchen** (District 5) had grabbed that bullhorn, to make a few suggestions about the re-structuring proposal.

Beyond this continuing conundrum, the main order of early business is the proposal before Council to revise the **meeting and decision structure**. Initiated by Mayor **Steve Adler**, the draft proposal would increase the number of Council committees, require most ordinances to be heard first by a committee before reaching Council, and hold most public hearings before those committees instead of the full Council. The intent, said the mayor, is to provide earlier public input and reduce the length of formal Council meetings. The plan also calls for Council to meet more often (weekly rather than biweekly) and to move some matters

(e.g., executive sessions) outside the public meeting cycle. Emergency items would still be able to be placed on the Council agenda by a group of four Council members; but in theory the vetting by committee would shorten the full agendas.

It may well be wishful thinking. Advocates disappointed at committees (or commissions) commonly want to re-plead their cases before the full Council; and every Council witness wants his full three minutes, even if to repeat everything argued by his predecessors, at whatever hour.

Council is hoping that public feedback will help refine the details; Austinites are encouraged to provide such at the "SpeakUpAustin!" website (www.speakupaustin.org/discussions). The site includes the proposed changes, a flow chart for potential ordinances, and a list of new committees under consideration. Council is planning a public hearing on the changes for Thursday, Jan. 22 and a potential vote on Jan. 29 – although curiously, the closing date on public comments is currently listed as Feb. 7.

– Michael King

10-1 TICKER... COUNCIL SETTLES IN

No Place Like Home: New D1 CM **Ora Houston** followed her formal City Hall swearing-in ceremony with a ceremonial in-district version at **St. James Episcopal Church**, where Houston called on her supporters to join her in an “affirmation of accountability.” Congrats to Houston, and here’s a start: When quoting **Glinda the Good Witch** (from *The Wizard of Oz*) on your Facebook page (“You had the power all along ...”) spell her name right: It’s not “Glenda”...

Love Before Politics: D2 CM **Delia Garza** has had another reason to celebrate beyond her landslide November election; on New Year’s Day, she married her fiancé **Ramiro Martinez Jr.**, and the two enjoyed a “mini-honeymoon” in New Orleans prior to the Jan. 6 Council swear-in...

Too Soon Old: No sooner did D4 CM **Greg Casar** get sworn in, he was named “2015 Inspiring Leader” by the **Austin Young Chamber of Commerce**, to be honored on Feb. 6, at the second annual State of AYC Luncheon – enjoy it while you can...

Never Say Die: Despite a recount confirming precisely her 30-point run-off loss, defeated D4 candidate **Laura Pressley** continues to insist there are “discrepancies” sufficient to overturn the election (among Pressley’s recount “monitor team” was defeated mayoral candidate **David Orshalick**); she says she still intends to submit a complaint to the **Texas secretary of state**, “the best and most cost efficient way to handle our concerns.” Travis County Clerk **Dana DeBeauvoir** described the run-off as “free and fair,” and called Pressley’s charges “baseless”...

Movin’ On: We asked D6 CM **Don Zimmerman** about the two lotteries he proposed inauguration night: one to select **mayor pro tem**, and one to decide who would

get first pick for offices. While the MPT suggestion failed, Zimmerman did prevail on the office question, and wound up with first pick, reportedly choosing the office D5’s **Ann Kitchen** had been using. However, Zimmerman didn’t have much to say about the matter: “Kathie [Tovo] is completely qualified for the MPT position, as were other members, and we are settled in offices. We have moved on. What about the *Chronicle*?” he asked...

Staffing Carousel: Former longtime *Chronicle* News staffer **Amy Smith** volunteered in the campaign of **Leslie Pool** after leaving us, and now the new D7 CM has hired Smith for her Council staff – meaning we’re going to have twice as much fun putting one particular Council office on the spot... In a couple more cases of reshuffled bedfellows, defeated first-round D1 candidate **Christopher Hutchins** has been hired as an aide by former opponent Houston, while D10’s **Tina Cannon** has been hired as a staffer by victor **Sheri Gallo** (Cannon endorsed Gallo in the run-off against **Mandy Dealey**). Cannon announced the news to the *Chronicle* in an email where

she also pointed out that Gallo is the daughter of former Austin CM and Mayor Pro Tem **Edgar “Commodore” Perry**. “We are fairly certain that has never happened before,” she wrote... While six of the previous Council are no longer on the dais, some of their former aides will stay on at City Hall: **Sheryl Cole** staffer **Beverly Wilson** has been hired by Houston; **Laura Williamson**, who previously worked for **Mike Martinez**, now works for Garza; D3 CM **Pio Renteria** has taken on **Bill Spelman** aide **Ashley Fisher**; former Martinez staffer **Shelby Alexander** joins Casar’s team; and **Donna Tiemann**, who used to work for **Laura Morrison**, will now work for Kitchen.

– The News Staff



Laura Pressley



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LEGE OPENS WITH MANY UNANSWERED QUESTIONS

Texas Secessionists on the north lawn. Hispanic rights advocates on the south steps. Open carry ideologues going from office to office. And the traditional brief outpouring of collegial camaraderie. The **84th Legislature** began on Jan. 13 as they all seem to, with a wary sense of a challenging 140 days to come. The new Lege will “represent a glorious group of Texans from the far-flung reaches of our state,” Secretary of State **Nandita Berry** told the assembled House. But they embark on a process that Major General **John F. Nichols** described during his invocation as “somewhat messy.”

No kidding. The discord began early in the Senate, with two no votes on **Senate Resolution 1** – the pro forma measure setting Senate office budgets. Across in the House, it took only until the challenge from Frisco Republican **Scott Turner** to incumbent Speaker **Joe Straus**. Rep. **Jeff Leach**, R-Plano, cited Martin Luther King Jr. in saying his vote for Turner was “neither safe nor politic nor popular.” Neither was it effective, since Turner had more support in the peanut gallery than on the floor. Straus walked into the room with 74 Republicans and 46 Democrats pledged, and won a 127-19 victory in the first contested speaker race in 40 years. Yet Turner left with added Tea Party support outside the chamber, and rumblings of congressional ambitions.

So what now for the Legislature? In the previous week, the agendas of the big three – Straus, Governor-elect **Greg Abbott**, and Lt. Gov.-elect **Dan Patrick** – had come into sharper focus. As attorney general, Abbott’s energies had been directed toward beating up on those rascally feds as the enemies of Texas freedom. Increasingly, he has por-

trayed local regulations as turning the Lone Star State into California. Condemning such actions as the recent ban on **fracking** in Republican-dominated Denton as “a form of collectivism,” he promised to confront such city ordinances as bag bans (i.e., Austin’s). Contrasting that position with Abbott’s inaction after the devastating fertilizer explosion in West in 2013, **Progress Texas** Executive Director **Ed Espinoza** wrote in a release, “It’s laughable that he won’t regulate dangerous chemical plants but he’s willing to crack down on bag bans – where are his priorities?”

In the Senate, Patrick spent last week saying that he would let the members lead the direction of the session. However, he seemingly has a very clear idea what they will want, and it fits with his hard-right agenda: border concerns, school vouchers and charters, tax cuts. As a senator, he has targeted the **two-thirds rule** – designed to prevent disruptive bills coming to the floor without a bipartisan majority – since 2007, and now he seems set to dismantle it. He’s also promised to reduce the number of committees, and has a longstanding commitment to deny Senate Democrats any chairs.

As for Straus, beyond the reflexive Republican commitment to tax reduction, his policy proposals seem workmanlike rather than dogmatic: a commitment to better scrutinize state contracts (no doubt triggered by the ongoing scandal over overpriced Medicaid fraud detection software) and further school reforms built on the back of **House Bill 5**, the 2013 omnibus education bill.

There are still many details to be determined. Four seats are still in special elec-



Greg Abbott (I), Dan Patrick, and Joe Straus

tion run-offs; the House and Senate still have to convene to adapt their rules of operation for the 2015 session; and lawmakers still have to work out the scale of the next state budget. On Jan. 12, new Comptroller **Glenn Hegar** made a surprisingly bullish economic forecast, predicting in his first biennial revenue estimate that the state will have \$113 billion in state tax revenue to spend in the next two years. That’s up from the \$101 billion for the current 2014-15 biennium, but most of the increase will just cover inflation and population growth, and it’s still unclear how much wiggle room the Lege really has.

School finance remains the elephant in the room, and it was broadly expected there would be multiple special sessions to tackle

the issue. However, with the Texas Supreme Court now unlikely to make a ruling on the ongoing public ed lawsuit before 2016 (see “Fate of School Finance Delayed,” below), there’s no pressure to make immediate changes. **Tedrah Robertson** of the **Equity Center** said she was not surprised by the delay, but remained optimistic that there would be serious education debate, and potentially even a special session. She pointed to House Education Committee Chair **Jimmie Don Aycock**’s omnibus HB 654, filled with radical solutions such as creating new school tax districts to even out the burden of the Robin Hood property tax recapture system. Robertson said, “He at least wants to start the debate.”

– Richard Whittaker



Ken Paxton

FATE OF SCHOOL FINANCE DELAYED

The **84th Legislature** was supposed to be the session where Texas politicians took on the thorny issue of **school finance**. Now the heavy lifting may be delayed two years, as all parties in the ongoing litigation on the issue asked for a massive extension on the timeline.

The case in question is the state’s appeal of Judge **John Dietz**’s 2014 ruling, which held the current school finance system unconstitutional. The state filed its appeal in the **Texas Supreme Court** back in August, but on Jan. 6, Attorney General **Ken Paxton** filed a request to change the timeline.

Normally, a case like this would have three significant landmark dates, beginning when the court notes that it has jurisdiction. First, the appellants (in this case, Commissioner of Education **Michael Williams**, Comptroller **Glenn Hegar**, the **State Board of Education**, and the **Texas Education Agency**) would have 30 days to file their briefs, and then the appellees (the **Texas Taxpayer** and

Student Fairness Coalition, et al.) would have 30 days to file their responses. After that, there’s an extra 20 days, during which both parties can respond to whatever the other filed.

However, due to the massive complexity of this appeal, all parties are asking the Texas Supremes for a huge extension: 80 days for appellants, 80 for appellees, and 40 for responses. That takes the process from 80 days to 200, and that’s before the first day in court. This is not necessarily a stalling tactic: As the state notes in its filing, this is “unusually complex,” even for a school finance case. There are multiple plaintiffs, not all of whom are in agreement, and the sheer amount of material to wade through is monumental: Dietz’s ruling and supporting explanation alone comprise the 364-page tip of a 230,000-page, 309-volume reporter’s record.

That new timeline, if accepted by the court, means the Supremes are unlikely to make a ruling until 2016, five years after the

original lawsuit was filed. The plan has always been that the state’s appeal would be dealt with by the courts, then lawmakers could respond and reform accordingly. The hope among many was that the issue could be handled, if not during the 84th regular session, then in special sessions across the fall and winter of 2015. Instead, this risks becoming a 2017 agenda item, and that’s frustrating for lawmakers desperate to get the ball rolling now.

House Appropriations Committee Member **Dawnna Dukes**, D-Austin, said, “To drag it out like that is a disservice.” Dukes put the blame squarely on Governor-elect **Greg Abbott**, who filed the original appeal when he was still attorney general. Her concern now is twofold: First, that the system itself will remain unchanged for two more years, and second, that conservatives will delay any extra education investment this year, including proposals for **pre-K finance**. Rather than deferring education costs again, she said, “This should be the number one priority.”

– R.W.

Bikes in the Mud – Parks & Rec in the Barrel

“Cyclo-cross” – all-terrain bike-racing – is a competition that thrives on bad weather, including mud, sleet, and snow. So there was little surprise that participants were angry when last Sunday’s **2015 USA Cycling Cyclo-Cross National Championships** event in **Zilker Park** was canceled (then rescheduled) because of rain. Now the bigger question seems to be: Should it have been held there in the first place? This was the first time the event had visited Austin since 1978, and the first three days went off without a hitch. Then on the fourth day, Saturday, Jan. 10, the city suddenly announced that the last day, including all finals in all age categories, was off.

The point of concern was the proximity of the race to **20 heritage trees**. The meet had been approved by both the **Zilker Neighborhood Association** and a city forester, and the race route was agreed upon between the city and event organizers **USA Cycling**, the sporting nonprofit recognized by the **International Olympic Committee** as the official representation of



SANDY CARSON

bicycle sports in America. However, there had been criticism from the Austin **Heritage Tree Foundation** that the route was too close to sensitive oaks, and should instead have been held on existing trails at Walnut Creek Metro Park. City **Parks and Recreation Department** spokesperson **Shelley Parks** said the decision to cancel was actually a joint decision between the city and USA Cycling. Representatives of both groups had walked the track every day, and, Parks said, “On Sunday morning it was seen that there was quite a bit of irrigation channel and tree root exposed.”

The city quickly closed the park and turned away visitors. Many among the thousands of

competitors and spectators were furious – particularly as they were not allowed on the site to retrieve personal possessions. They quickly took to social media to lampoon Austin for canceling the all-weather event. After several hours, USA Cycling – after discussions with Austin PARD Director **Sara Hensley**, and with the unexpected intervention of discredited cycling legend **Lance Armstrong** – made an announcement. The city would alter the track configuration, put down a ton of mulch, and reschedule the event for the next day, Monday, Jan. 12.

This is the second time in two weeks that the city seems to have been caught flatfooted by weather, having canceled the **Austin New Year’s Eve** celebration over fears of ice – ice that never actually materialized.

Moreover, the inch or so of rain on Saturday night was nowhere near the deluge that caused the cancellation of the third day of the ACL Festival in 2013 (see “ACL Fest Cancels Sunday,” Oct. 13, 2013). The end result seemed to make no one happy: Local opponents remained

frustrated the race was only delayed, not relocated; meanwhile, visitors had either to extend their stays or miss the final races. Moreover, the race conditions were actually worse and muddier on Monday. “The postponement was not an ideal situation, and we regret that,” Parks said.

Long-term, Parks said there will be discussions about using Zilker for such events. As for the rescheduled New Year’s, staff with the city’s **Economic Development Department** say there was a planning meeting held last week, and they hope to make an announcement of a replacement event within the week.

– R.W.



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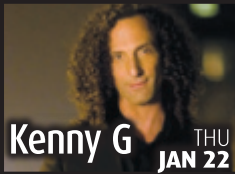
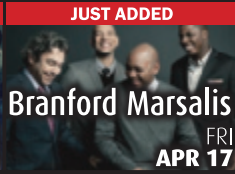
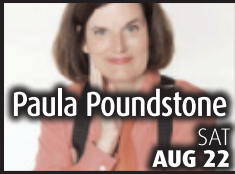
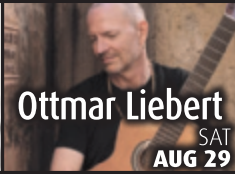
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The fight against Texas abortion laws that pro-choice advocates began at the Capitol in 2013 isn't over.

HB 2 Returns to Court

5TH CIRCUIT EVALUATES ASC REQUIREMENT

In New Orleans last Wednesday, Jan. 7, justices on the notoriously conservative **5th Circuit Court of Appeals** delivered a critical line of questioning during a hearing to determine the fate of the final provision of Texas' draconian abortion law, **House Bill 2**.

The first three parts of the four-part HB 2 have already gone into effect: a rule that requires physicians to obtain **admitting privileges** at a hospital within 30 miles of the clinic where they perform the procedure; a rule that mandates patients follow outdated FDA protocol when ingesting abortion medication; and an abortion ban after 20 weeks of pregnancy.

At issue now is a rule that forces clinics to make costly building updates in order to comply with **ambulatory surgical center (ASC)** standards. The current suit also seeks to strike down hospital admitting privilege requirements for clinics in **McAllen** and **El Paso** – underserved, minority-populated areas. If the final provision of

the law goes into effect, it is expected to leave only seven abortion providers for the state's 5 million reproductive-age women.

U.S. Judge **Lee Yeakel** deemed the ASC provision unconstitutional in August, and the state quickly appealed. The 5th Circuit reversed Yeakel's decision, putting the rule into effect in October. Plaintiffs appealed to the **U.S. Supreme Court**, which temporarily halted the law on Oct. 14.

While news of which judges would hear the case – all **George W. Bush** appointees, including two who previously upheld parts of HB 2 – didn't put abortion providers at ease, the judge's responses to Wednesday's oral arguments proved surprisingly refreshing, giving abortion providers and pro-choice advocates some encouragement.

From the outset of the hearing, which wound up lasting twice as long as the allotted time, Judge **Catharina Haynes**, directing her questions to state Solicitor General **Jonathan Mitchell**, expressed doubt over

how the ASC physical plant requirements improve women's safety. The construction changes – which include building janitorial closets and expanding doorways – are estimated to cost millions for abortion providers, many of which are modest, independent clinics unable to afford the hefty price tag. (For instance, a 7,000-square-foot building would cost in the ballpark of \$5 million.) Plaintiffs argue these requirements are wholly unnecessary and amount to a "multi-million dollar tax" on abortion providers. Mitchell said the rules improve the sterility of the clinic. "Then why can't you have a sterile operating environment in a 3,000-square-foot [clinic]?" asked Haynes.

Noting the hundreds of miles women in West Texas will be forced to travel if the ASC rule goes into effect, Haynes hypothesized a "bleeding event" scenario that could place a woman in danger, and run counter to the state's ostensible intention of increasing women's safety. "If a woman starts profusely bleeding [on the road to a provider], isn't that a problem? Isn't that the antithesis of what the state is trying to promulgate?" Mitchell said, as he has before, that a woman in

El Paso can obtain closer services in **New Mexico**; however, the neighboring state does not have a law with the same requirements as Texas' HB 2, raising questions over the state's true purpose in defending it. Later, **Stephanie Toti** of the **Center for Reproductive Rights**, said there was "no good reason" to force women to travel to another state for abortion care. "Texas is essentially forcing its own abortion providers out of practice because it says these requirements are necessary to advance patient health and safety, but then it's shuttling those patients across the border [to New Mexico] where those requirements aren't in force," said Toti, underscoring the state's hypocrisy. When pressed about the seeming contradiction by Haynes – "Aren't you undercutting your argument?" –

As a result of HB 2, the number of abortion clinics in Texas has been cut more than half, from 41 to 17.

Mitchell replied, "I don't see that it's hypocritical at all ... we can't stop our patients from traveling out of state." Yet he did acknowledge the care women would receive in New Mexico would be "less than optimal."

However, Haynes also cast some skepticism on plaintiffs' claims regarding ASC changes and the number of women affected, and questioned whether the district court's order – which struck down HB 2 – was "overly broad."

As a result of HB 2, the number of abortion clinics in Texas has been cut more than half, from 41 to 17, with two under construction and not yet operating. If the ASC rule is enacted, seven will remain, leaving abortion care up to 500 miles away for women who live west or south of San Antonio.

On a press call following the hearing, **Amy Hagstrom-Miller** of lead plaintiff **Whole Woman's Health** – a network of reproductive health providers, including a now closed Austin center – said she was "very encouraged" and "impressed" by

Haynes and Elrod's critical line of questioning. She said the justices "took seriously" the undue burden placed on women, especially in west and South Texas, and she was pleased by the ample time spent bringing to light the "illogic" of the New Mexico argument. In particular, she appreciated when

Haynes cast doubt on the ASC rule's benefit to the health of Texas women. In this instance, the 5th Circuit has at least "paid attention to the evidence" plaintiffs put forward, said Hagstrom-Miller.

But, as past rulings at the 5th Circuit have proven, it's difficult to be optimistic about the outcome on matters of abortion rights and reproductive health. Plaintiffs say the appellate court will rule within the next couple of weeks. In the event the panel rules to uphold the law, plaintiffs won't hesitate to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court to reinstate the lower court's injunction, and the state is expected to do the same if the panel affirms that injunction. "We are very committed to challenge this all the way up to the Supreme Court if need be," Hagstrom-Miller said. – *Mary Tuma*

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Cleopatra de Leon (left)
and wife Nicole Dimetman



5TH CIRCUIT CONSIDERS MARRIAGE EQUALITY

Gay marriage is tantamount to an irresponsible “social experiment,” argued Texas Solicitor General **Jonathan Mitchell**, echoing the state’s continuing defense of the ban during last Friday’s court hearing over marriage equality. The New Orleans-based **5th Circuit Court of Appeals** heard cases from **Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi** on Jan. 9, following a state appeal after a federal judge ruled the law unconstitutional last February.

Similar to the unusually critical line of questioning by the conservative 5th Circuit judges during last week’s hearing on Texas’ **anti-abortion law** (see “HB 2 Returns To Court,” left), two of the three judges appointed to hear the LGBTQ rights case – **James Graves Jr.** (appointed by **Barack Obama**) and **Patrick Higginbotham** (appointed by **Ronald Reagan**) – shot back at several points during oral arguments, peppering the defense with a series of hard-hitting questions.

The state regurgitated its curiously clinical perspective on holy matrimony – love is great and all, but the purpose of marriage is really about baby-making. The core of the defense rests on the premise that same-sex marriage would not necessarily be harmful to the state, but fails to advance the state’s interests, and thus gay couples shouldn’t be entitled to the same economic and legal protections as “traditional” marriage. “[The plaintiffs] view the institution of marriage only to celebrate mutual love and commitment of two people,” said Mitchell. “The state’s marriage laws reflect a different view – the celebration-of-love component is important, but it’s secondary to the interests in generating positive externalities and positive benefits for society, in the form of encouraging the creation of new offspring and in reducing the incidences of unplanned, out-of-wedlock births.”

Seeking to clarify, Higginbotham sharply questioned the state’s logic, “So the state’s reason for [not supporting gay marriage] is because it’s not advancing a goal they want

to advance? It’s not going to harm anything else but we just don’t want to spend the money that way?” (Mitchell confirmed this as, indeed, one of the state’s arguments.)

Graves engaged Mitchell in a discussion about “animus”: “Fear of the unknown, a lack of understanding and sensitivity to people who are different, an insensitivity to the preferences of people who are different – is this not an irrational prejudice?” he asked. Mitchell replied because the Texas law is “rooted in scientific fact” and biological reality (procreation), it could not be motivated by animus.

Neel Lane, attorney for the four plaintiffs – Austin-based **Nicole Dimetman** and her wife

Cleopatra de Leon, and **Mark Phariss** and his partner **Victor Holmes** – described the hardships the couples face due to the law. Expecting a child in March, Dimetman and de Leon (who legally married out of state) will have a blank space on their infant’s birth certificate (see “The Human Right of Marriage”; Nov. 7, 2014); the same blank space would appear on a surviving spouse form in the event of

Holmes’ death. “These two examples are emblematic of the inferior status restricting same sex marriage results in,” said Lane. Slamming the state’s justification as “half-baked,” Lane argued Texas is trying to radically narrow the definition of marriage and redefine it to the state’s advantage.

“Everyone knows this law is really about the moral disapproval of homosexuals,” he said.

In related news, the **U.S. Supreme Court** declined this week to examine the challenge to Louisiana’s state ban on same-sex marriage (the plaintiffs had asked to skip the usual appeals process on the basis of a “pressing need”), but plans to take up the four other pending suits in **Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan, and Tennessee** on Jan. 16. Texas is among 14 states with a marriage-equality ban.

Considering the skepticism voiced by Higginbotham and Mitchell, a 2-1 split against the ban doesn’t appear out of the question at the 5th Circuit. All parties are sitting tight; there’s no deadline for the ruling. – *Mary Tuma*



Patrick Higginbotham

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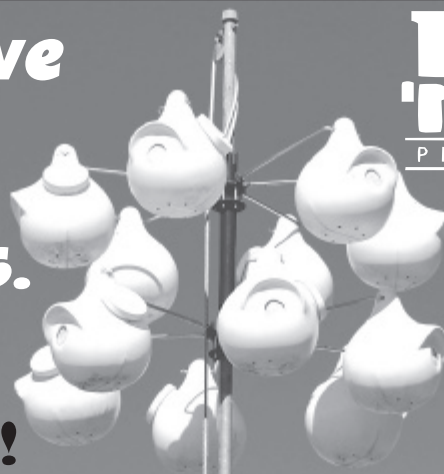
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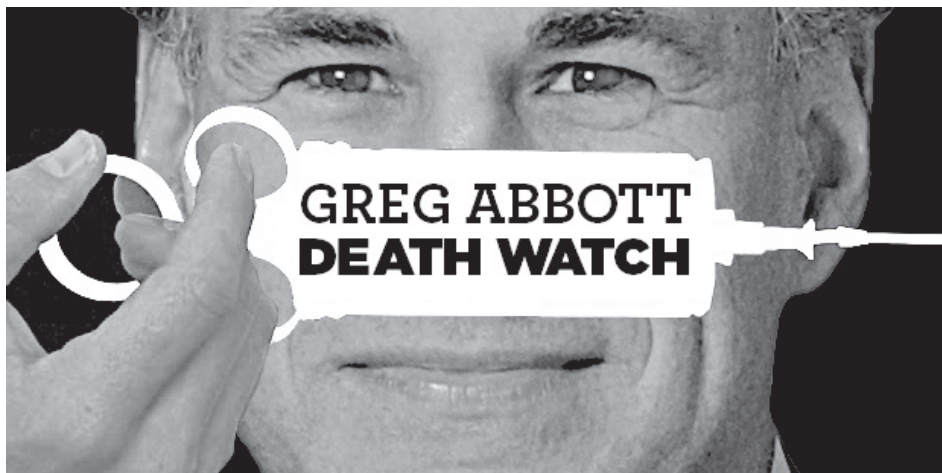
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Arnold Prieto Scheduled to Be First to Die in 2015

On Sunday afternoon, Sept. 12, 1993, **Maria Luisa Rodriguez** visited the **San Antonio** home of her parents-in-law **Virginia and Rodolfo Rodriguez**, only to discover they'd both been stabbed to death, along with the longtime nanny to the Rodriguez children, 90-year-old **Paula Moran**, who lived with the couple.

For months, the police had no leads. But in March 1994, after receiving a series of anonymous tips, two San Antonio Police Department detectives traveled four-and-a-half hours up I-35 to the Dallas suburb of **Carrollton**, where they met with two local detectives, and took the great-nephew of the murdered couple, 16-year-old **Jessie Hernandez**, in for questioning, and shortly thereafter arrested his brother **Guadalupe Hernandez** and their mutual friend **Arnold Prieto**. After four hours of interrogations, Prieto, then 20, submitted a lengthy statement.

In it, he provided background information about his relationship with the Hernandez brothers. Shortly after meeting Prieto in May 1993, the two introduced him to cocaine. By that August, Prieto had lost his job, and the three were meeting each night to snort cocaine and watch movies. "It was starting to get out of hand," he wrote. He fell into financial trouble, losing track of payments on

his rent, utilities, and car loan. Prieto would complain about his financial situation, and the two brothers would counter by talking about their rich uncle in San Antonio.

Rodolfo Rodriguez, 72, ran a check-cashing business with his wife, 62, out of their home in San Antonio. The brothers would talk about a closet in the house that was filled with money. One day, after doing more cocaine, Guadalupe suggested that the three make a trip to San Antonio. They'd rob the Hernandez's relatives and head back to Carrollton, no problem.

Prieto didn't remember what time they got to the couple's house, only that "it was very dark." They walked up to the house; Virginia let them in. She offered them eggs, tortillas, and orange juice. "In my mind, I thought nothing's going to happen and we will end up just staying the night," he wrote in his statement. He went into a bedroom with Jessie and Rodolfo; moments later, he heard Virginia scream. Prieto looked into the kitchen, he wrote, and saw Guadalupe stabbing his aunt repeatedly with a screwdriver. Rodolfo got up, but Prieto pushed him back into the bed. Jessie handed Prieto a smaller screwdriver, which Prieto used to stab Rodolfo.

The three made their way through the house, grabbing jewelry and whatever cash

they could find. At some point, Moran emerged from her room, and Jessie stabbed her with a knife. Reports say Jessie stabbed Moran eight different times. Rodolfo was stabbed 17 times, and Virginia 31.

Prieto was convicted in June 1995 and sentenced to death for the three murders. Only 16 at the time of killings, Jessie was spared the death penalty and instead sentenced to life in prison. Charges against Guadalupe were dropped for lack of sufficient evidence.

Prieto never appealed his verdict, but he did take issue with the punishment – and blamed his attorneys for the sentence. Specifically, he argued in a writ of habeas corpus filed May 8, 2002, his trial attorneys **Michael Bernard** and **Julie Pollock** failed to properly use three pieces of evidence during the punishment phase of the trial. First, they neglected to present his school records – which were not allowed as evidence during the guilt/innocence phase and showed that Prieto had "very poor grades" that would keep him from certain career fields. Second, they did not properly convey a doctor's expert testimony on the effect that cocaine has on someone's actions – which might have shown that Prieto "had an impairment on his executive functioning." Finally, they failed to get a copy of Prieto's statement (damning and descriptive as it was) to the jury during punishment deliberations.

The jury sent out a series of related notes during those deliberations, going so far as to ask whether or not, as the appeal notes, "drug use and possible addiction would be grounds for mitigation." That, compounded

with other questions, had the jury at a temporary standstill over whether Prieto could be considered a continuing threat to society – a condition for a death sentence.

Ultimately, the appellate court concluded that Pollock had attempted to present enough mitigating evidence to obtain a life sentence in lieu of the death penalty, and that the jury's decisions were "informed decisions." It also determined that the evidence of cocaine abuse was "double-edged" because it might establish future dangerousness rather than mitigation, and that the jury already knew Prieto was a high school dropout who was partially responsible for supporting his family. "At the start, it must be understood that the defense had no hope of proving that Mr. Prieto was not a future danger to

society," the court wrote in its analysis. (No doubt, his track record and reports that he was repeatedly insubordinate during the year he spent in jail after his arrest played a part in that determination.)

"Accordingly," the ruling continued, "the trial team should have pursued all venues with respect to the mitigation issue."

On Sept. 15, 2008, Prieto was denied a Certificate of Appealability by the **U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals**. Eight months later, in 2009, the **Supreme Court** refused to review his case. Since then, Prieto has made no further appeal. Now 41, he'll be the first person to be executed under Governor **Greg Abbott**, the first Texas inmate executed this year, and the 521st since the reinstatement of the state's death penalty in 1976.

– Chase Hoffberger

PRIETO NEVER APPEALED HIS VERDICT, BUT HE DID TAKE ISSUE WITH THE PUNISHMENT – AND BLAMED HIS ATTORNEYS FOR THE SENTENCE.

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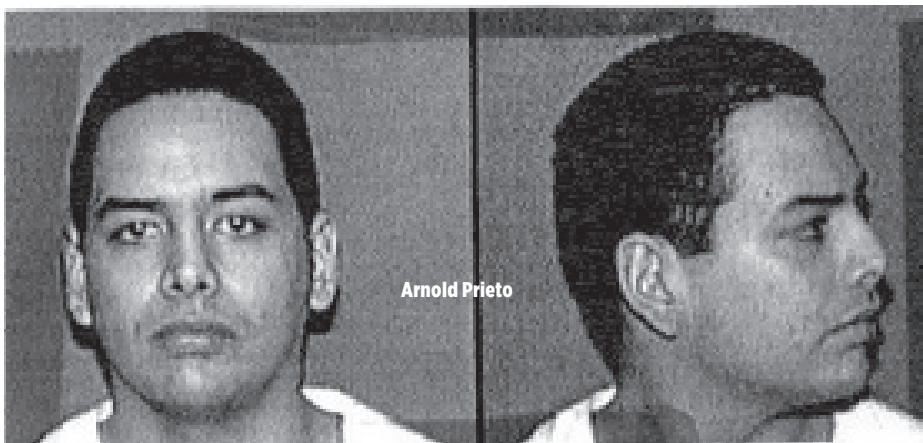
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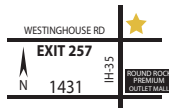
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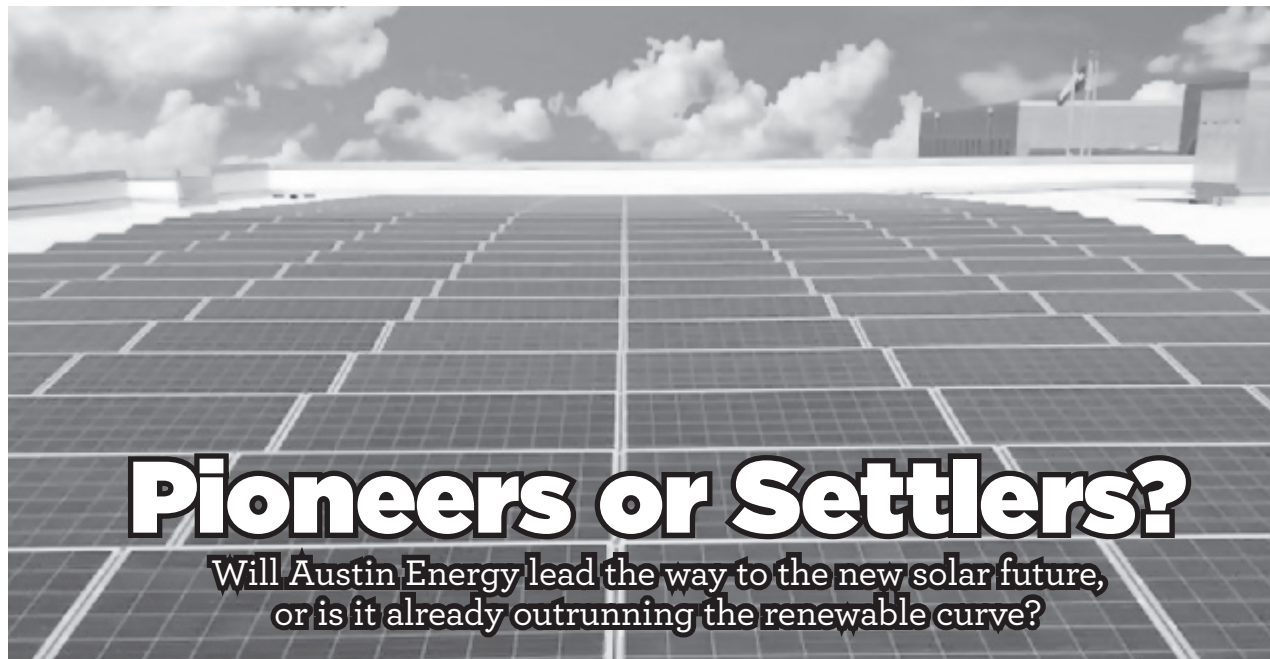
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Pioneers or Settlers?

Will Austin Energy lead the way to the new solar future, or is it already outrunning the renewable curve?

BY NORA ANKRUM

Last summer, the Austin Generation Resource Planning Task Force issued a bold recommendation to Austin Energy, the city's municipally owned utility. Charged with the task of translating stakeholder input into viable guidelines for meeting climate plan goals and updating AE's generation plan, the appointed citizen group concluded that solar power should be AE's "default new generation resource through 2024."

While ambitious, the recommendation was less audacious than it seemed. AE had just secured, to much fanfare, a 150-megawatt solar contract with Recurrent Energy at a record-low price – cheaper even than natural gas. Given the impending expiration of federal solar tax incentives at the end of 2016, solar looked to be a buyer's market. Moreover, AE was already set to meet its 35% renewable energy goal four years ahead of the 2020 target, and Council had just established a communitywide goal of reaching net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. Momentum seemed to be on the side of renewables.

Nonetheless, AE staff balked. Although supportive of solar, they insisted that much of the task force's vision was simply unaffordable. The ensuing discussions pushed a final decision to December 11, the last Council meeting of the year – and the very last meeting ever for the mayor and the five at-large Council members who would be concluding their terms on the dais. During the preceding months, Council had controversially passed a selection of task force recommendations, AE had made its own generation plan proposal, and a six-member team of the Sierra Club Lone Star Chapter (including director Cyrus Reed, also a task force member), had negotiated directly with AE staff on yet another proposal – to the chagrin of those stakeholders now left out of the proceedings.

Surprisingly, as the debate moved to its close, the most salient question to emerge was not whether gambling on solar would be worth the risk. Instead, it was whether or not AE's proposal to build a new natural gas plant – historically a safe investment – might in fact be the bigger gamble, at a time when markets for new energy technologies are evolving rapidly and the utility business model is undergoing fundamental change.

Going forward, the big questions had become: How fast for solar is too fast? And have the historically "safe" choices – like natural gas – suddenly become as uncertain as renewables?

FILLING THE GAP WITH GAS

Ultimately, City Council approved a 2025 Generation Plan that says yes to both solar and, tentatively, natural gas. The plan aims to increase the share of renewables in AE's generation portfolio to 55% by 2025, in part through dramatically increasing solar capacity from the currently installed 52 MW to 950 MW. It also commits, "beginning in 2022," to retiring AE's share of the coal-fired Fayette Power Project, which currently provides roughly a quarter of AE's energy. As AE's largest emitter of carbon dioxide and as a significant water user (AE's share requires 1.3 billion gallons of water annually), the plant has been a major focal point of climate plan discussions. But this time around, Fayette was overshadowed by the Generation Plan's proposal – pending the results of a "third-party" study – to build a new 500-MW combined-cycle natural gas plant.

In contrast to the task force's recommendation that the utility "wean itself from natural gas as quickly as possible," AE staff insist that more gas will be the key to both more

If the independent review supported an alternative to the gas plant, would Shalabi be comfortable with this alternative? Joking, Shalabi responded, "I'd want another independent review."

solar and greater affordability. According to Khalil Shalabi, AE's vice president of energy market operations and resource planning, a new gas plant "improves both sides of the ledger for AE and its customers, more income and less expense." On the expense side, because the gas plant would be built locally (within the Austin "load zone"), it would minimize costs associated with transmission and distribution of electricity. (Notably, the most likely location would be at the current East Austin site of the Decker Creek Power Station's soon-to-be-retired natural gas steam units – a potential point of contention for area residents who may be eager to see those units go and stay gone.) On the income side of the ledger, says Shalabi, the new plant would be among the most efficient – and therefore most competitive – on the Texas grid. By AE's calculus, an efficient new gas plant bidding competitive prices into the market would run often, allowing AE to sell abundant electrons into the grid – generating revenue that would help maintain affordability, in part by offsetting the costs of adding solar to AE's portfolio.

Throughout the fall, AE argued for the gas plant's necessity, not just as a revenue source but as a replacement for capacity that would be lost with the retirements of Decker and AE's share of Fayette. In discussions with AE, the Sierra Club conceded to the plant only with the caveat that it be subjected to an independent third-party study. AE agreed to the study, but it became a major sticking point during the Dec. 11 Council meeting.

In hopes of avoiding any possibility of bias in the study's design, Council members sparred with AE staff over the plan's language. Trying to reframe the issue, Council Member Bill Spelman said, "The idea is ... we strip off the assumption that it's about a gas plant and say, no ... it's about a gap, and the way you want to fill that gap. The way you think is the right way to fill that gap is with a gas plant, and we're putting that to the test." Still getting resistance from AE staff fearful of backtracking on analyses they had already completed, he asked: If the independent review supported an alternative to the gas plant, would Shalabi be comfortable with this alternative? Joking, Shalabi responded, "I'd want another independent review."

Although he was kidding, Shalabi nonetheless remained unapologetic in his conviction that the study – given the results he'd seen in "multiple scenarios" analyzed by AE staff – would likely justify building a new gas plant. Although the day's agenda was a record 231 items long, Council members spent two and a half hours hearing comments on the plan, poring over its details, submitting amendments, and attempting detailed edits from the dais. At least one comparison was drawn between the gas plant and the controversial Water Treatment Plant 4, both being large capital expenditures unpopular among environmentalists.

THE FUTURE: SOLAR + STORAGE?

In contrast to most of his fellow Council members, Mayor Lee Leffingwell – ultimately the lone dissenting vote on the plan – spoke rarely but bluntly. The plan is subject to affordability metrics requiring that AE's rates remain among the bottom 50% of rates statewide, and that overall rate increases

average at or below 2% per year. Given the new amendments added "on the fly," Leffingwell was skeptical that the plan would remain within those bounds.

"Austin Energy is in a deep hole," he said, "and the first rule of holes is, when you're in one, stop digging." Interviewed later, he suggested that AE rates may already be violating affordability metrics, but that it was difficult to know without the information, eagerly awaited, from a Federal Energy Regulatory Committee

report that wouldn't be released until 2015. He also pointed to AE's budget proposal over the summer, which would have pushed rates over the 2% benchmark were it not for what he called "accounting gimmicks – deferring costs and so forth into future years, which is not really a good way to do business." Given the coming legislative session (and the fact that the state is one of AE's biggest customers) and the May expiration of several AE contracts with large energy users, Leffingwell insisted on the paramount importance of keeping rates competitive.

Underlying these issues is a fundamental uncertainty arising from concerns that a gas plant – a long-term investment with large up-front costs – might itself become a stranded asset, as the costs of new technologies become more competitive with traditional fossil fuels. A chorus of



Khalil Shalabi

JANA BIRCHUM

CONTINUED ON P.22

“I’m for touring the Getty Museum from my laptop.”

– Kathy W., art enthusiast, North Austin



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Former AE executive
Michael Osborne



Solar Austin President
Kaiba White

PHOTOS BY JANA BIRCHUM

SOLAR IN AUSTIN CONTINUED FROM P.20
national headlines throughout 2014 stoked confidence in alternative sources of energy, with the Rockefeller Brothers Fund pledging to divest from its fossil fuel assets, and Warren Buffett announcing plans to double Berkshire Hathaway's \$15 billion renewable investment.

Particularly notable was a series of finance sector reports making rosy predictions for renewables while issuing dire warnings for utilities. The year began with headlines announcing a Credit Suisse analysis projecting that roughly 85% of growth in U.S. demand for energy could be met by renewables in the next 10 years, and asserting that "old-line arguments against renewables – too expensive, too intermittent, too remote – will continue to fade." In March, news circulated of similar themes in Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley reports. In May – a week after AE announced its unprecedented solar power contract with Recurrent – Barron's reported that Barclays had downgraded all electric utility bonds because "a confluence of declining cost trends in distributed solar photovoltaic (PV) power generation and residential-scale power storage is likely to disrupt the status quo." Barclays warned of "near-term risks to credit from regulators and utilities falling behind the solar + storage adoption curve and long-term risks from a comprehensive re-imagining of the role utilities play in providing electric power."

The task force's July recommendations were issued against this backdrop, and similar stories continued to appear as the year went on. In August, news circulated about a UBS Bank brief forecasting the end of "large-scale, centralized power stations" within two decades. Then in September, Citigroup issued a research brief estimating that "renewables with battery storage is due to

reach grid parity in large parts of the world within 15 years, which is inside the typical 30-35-year economic lifecycle of utility assets."

Shalabi is skeptical of such reports. "I really want to meet those analysts from those investment banks that really have no idea what they're talking about," he says. Applied to the utility sector, he says, the math they're using "is just false." However, former AE executive Michael Osborne, who chairs both the task force and the city's Electric Utility Commission, is equally critical of AE's math; he asserts that AE's methods for determining costs do not adequately consider factors that make the municipally owned utility – which is both a wholesale and retail utility – unique relative to other players in the Texas market.

Nonetheless, both men acknowledge there is a fundamental transition taking place in the utility business as new technologies alter the relationship between energy suppliers and consumers. Distributed generation (e.g., rooftop solar panels) provides one example: As energy storage technologies advance and more customers generate their

own electricity, utilities will lose money, not just because they're selling less of their product but because it will be harder to recoup the costs of maintaining the transmission and distribution systems upon which all energy sources rely. This problem is why utilities are exploring new avenues for generating revenue.

CREATING TRANSITIONS

A commonly used analogy for describing the challenge utilities face compares the utility sector today to the telephone industry before the transition to cell phones. Shalabi is not a fan of the metaphor. Unlike in the telephone industry, he says, energy customers "can't even tolerate one second without electricity." Still, he acknowledges

Now retired from AE, Osborne speaks to audiences around the world about AE's forward-looking achievements. He also talks about the grid's future, which he believes is fast approaching.

Steam units at Decker Creek Power Station will be retired in 2018.



COURTESY OF AUSTIN ENERGY

2025 GENERATION PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

Subject to affordability constraints, the plan establishes the following primary goals, to be completed by 2025 unless otherwise noted. (A link to the full plan, including areas for continued study related to the transformation of Austin Energy's business model, is available with this story online.)

- 1) Renewable portfolio goal:** Increase share of renewables to 55% of customer demand.
- 2) Wind:** Continue pursuit of wind power-purchase agreements and ownership opportunities; contract for at least 450 MW of additional coastal and Western wind.
- 3) Solar:** Increase capacity to at least 950 MW:
 - a. Include 200 MW of local solar (the first 110 MW by 2020, including 70 MW of customer-sited solar).
 - b. Include 600 MW of utility-scale solar.
 - c. Phase down residential and commercial incentives programs, and implement supportive solar policies.
- 4) Coal:** Create cash reserve fund for retirement – to begin in 2022 – of AE's share of Fayette coal plant, contingent upon affordability and payment of associated costs and debts.
- 5) Natural gas:**
 - a. Retire Decker Creek Power Station steam units (735 MW) by end of 2018.
 - b. Commence third-party economic and environmental review to replace Decker and Fayette.
- 6) Energy efficiency and demand response:**
 - a. Maintain current 800-MW goal (by 2020) for energy efficiency and demand response.
 - b. Increase goal to 900 MW by 2025, including 100 MW of demand response.
 - c. Increase goal to 1,000 MW by 2025, including 200 MW of demand response, pending availability and affordability.
- 7) Storage:**
 - a. Obtain at least 30 MW of local energy storage (including up to 20 MW of thermal storage) and review further local and utility-scale storage opportunities.
 - b. Issue Request for Information regarding 170 MW of large-scale energy storage such as compressed-air energy storage (contingent upon further study, technological development, affordability, and progress toward goals). – N.A.

Source: 2025 Generation Plan, passed by City Council on Dec. 11, 2014

that “there is disruptive technology coming along, and in both the cell phone and the electric industry, the unknown was how quickly can disruptive technology really disrupt the business model?”

Ultimately, the disagreement between gas plant proponents and skeptics may boil down to timing. “Ideas that were kind of outside the bell curve of normal thought have now moved to the middle of the line,” says Osborne. Now retired from AE, Osborne speaks to audiences around the world about AE's forward-looking achievements. He also talks about the grid's future, which he believes is fast approaching. In his talks, he likes to say that grid parity “is going to be next Tuesday.” In the coming “unified energy system,” the transportation

and utility sectors will be intimately linked, with electric vehicles serving as an integral part of the energy storage network, he says. Alternative forms of generating revenue might include things like on-bill financing for electric vehicles. “That would be a major profit center,” says Osborne, and such ideas aren't without precedent: “It wasn't that long ago that the old co-ops out in the countryside would do on-bill financing of your electric dishwasher.”

For now, Shalabi says, there needs to be “some sort of transitional period where the old system and the new system can coexist.” With this idea in mind, AE is investing in experimental new technologies, including a project combining 2 to 4 MW of community solar with energy storage. According

to Deborah Kimberly, AE's VP of customer energy solutions, the project will be located at the Kingsbery Substation, a “funky-shaped little piece of land” just east of the intersection of Springdale Road and Airport Boulevard. AE has issued a Request for Proposals for the project and is currently in negotiations with a vendor, says Kimberly. Community solar installations make solar power available for purchase by customers unable to install solar at their own homes, opening the market to renters and homeowners who either can't afford the up-front costs of solar or whose homes aren't equipped for it (e.g., surrounded by too much shade). Meanwhile, advanced energy storage – often described as the “holy grail” of grid transformation because it complements intermittent sources of power such as wind and solar – is an important focus of study. “We need to start having some good penetration in our service territory,” says Shalabi, “so that we're ready when it starts to push over from a technological point of view – we already know about it, we know how to do it, and we sort of become the enablers of that new utility.”

Solar Austin President Kaiba White says that community solar projects are one way to help ensure equitable access to solar, and that locally sited solar projects are good for local jobs. She had hoped to see a more ambitious timeline for local solar goals in the Generation Plan, in line with goals rec-

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SOLAR IN AUSTIN CONTINUED FROM P.23
ommended by the task force (200 MW by 2020) and passed in August by Council through Resolution 157 (specifying that half be customer-sited, as opposed to utility scale). The plan scales back that goal: 200 MW by 2025 (including 110 MW by 2020, 70 MW of which will be customer-sited).

The utility has traditionally encouraged local customer-sited solar through rebates (residential) and performance-based incentives (commercial). For example, 11 Pflugerville ISD sites have been awarded 10-year PBIs worth between \$25,000 and \$50,000 each annually. The district anticipates saving roughly \$1 million over the lifetime of the project, installed last June. Despite the popularity of these subsidies, the Generation Plan calls for a phase-down in favor of other “supportive policies” and “financing alternatives.” Because of high up-front costs, financing instruments – such as leasing – are an important part of the solar puzzle.

With Council’s recent passage of Resolution 157, residential customers who lease their solar systems are now, as of January 1, eligible to receive value-of-solar credits for offsetting their electric bill, just like customers who own their solar systems. “That’s probably the biggest difference between Austin and the rest of the world, where there are more mature financing vehicles in place,” says Stan Pipkin of Lighthouse Solar, a local company that performs engineering, procurement, and contracting services for solar projects. In other markets, he says, leasing instruments have expanded solar access by allowing customers “to essentially pay nothing up front and pay month to month.”

Although AE has been behind in some regards, it has been ahead in others, including the long-running program for rebates and PBIs. However, the program’s annual funding cycle has created uncertainty for local solar companies, with some “strange effects on the market,” says Pipkin. “My sense is that ... the year-to-year ‘grab for the pot’ ... has encouraged slightly different business models that are in some cases kind of short-lived.” Essentially, in competing to keep short-term costs low, not all businesses have remained sustainable, a situation jeopardizing long-term abilities to honor warranties and maintain quality control. The upshot, however, is that the surviving businesses “are quite nimble and agile,” he says, “and can operate at lower margins.”

In fact, Austin has some of the cheapest solar in the world now, says Pipkin, particularly for residential customers. But after years of declining soft costs, further savings under the year-to-year time horizons are harder to find. That’s why Pipkin is happy that the Generation Plan, which looks four years ahead, provides a slightly longer planning horizon. Like White, Pipkin had hoped for stronger local solar goals. “Our industry contends that we can make it affordable,” he says, given the introduction of new financing models and through business-model innovation enabled by a slower, more consistent ramp-down of incentives. Nonetheless, he says he’s excited about the

THE RENEWABLES SYMPHONY

Renewable sources of power are often called “intermittent” because wind blows most strongly in the afternoon and at night, while the sun shines only during the day. However, demand for energy – e.g., the switching on and off of lights or the plugging and unplugging of electronic devices throughout the day – can also be said to be intermittent. In fact, on aggregate, demand for power and supply of renewables follow a similar pattern. Based on summertime data from the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, this graph (included in the task force report) demonstrates that the shape of the load (demand) curve – which declines as people sleep at night, then rises gradually throughout the day – mirrors that of the renewables curve, because solar generation picks up during the day just as West Texas winds die down, and South Texas and coastal winds peak as the sun begins to wane. Moreover, as Michael Osborne points out, the same force that drives these wind and solar patterns drives the demand pattern as well, particularly in the summer – namely, the sun. In a nod to this harmony, he refers to the combination of solar and winds from around the state as the “renewables symphony.”

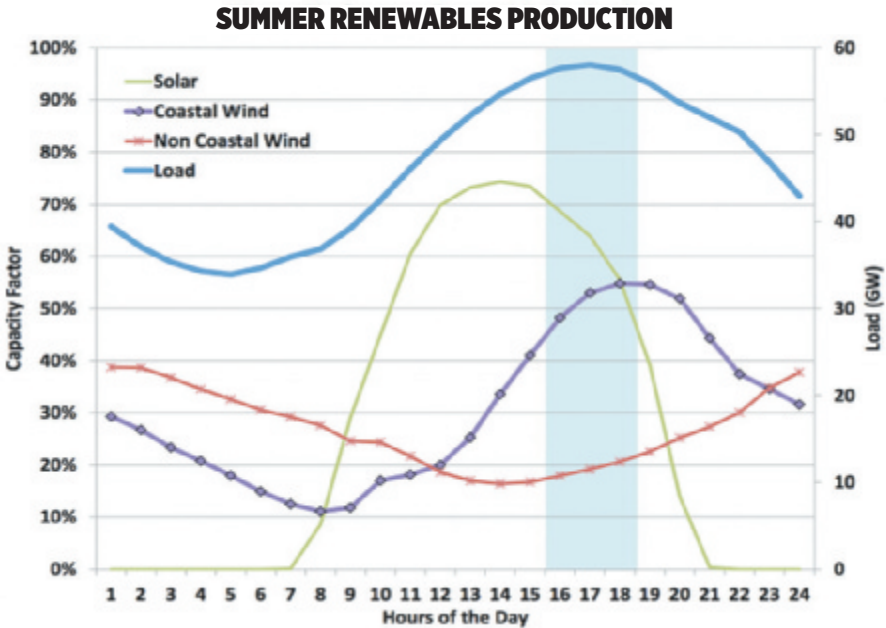
– N.A.

significant role solar plays in the plan overall: “I think that, in itself, is pretty historic.”

A FRAMEWORK OF VALUES

In a city generally overflowing with hometown pride, the notion that Austin should be a leader is often taken for granted. It has certainly played a prominent role in the city’s efforts to address climate change, and the 2025 Generation Plan follows this tradition, endeavoring to “continue to be a leader” in wind energy, “to become a leader” in energy storage, and to continue its active “leadership role” in energy research partnerships. Still, it is not always clear why leadership is important to begin with. In fact, says Shalabi, “There’s a cost to being a first mover.” He points to Council’s decision, in 2008, to invest in an East Texas biomass plant that quickly proved more costly than anticipated when natural gas prices dropped. A similar point can be made about AE’s 30-MW Webberville solar plant: Although it began operations just two years ago, solar prices have already dropped well below the Webberville contract price AE will be paying for the remaining 22 years.

These examples explain the advice given to Kimberly shortly after she moved do Austin to work at AE: “Somebody told me that the pioneers got shot,” she says, “and the settlers got the land.” Nonetheless, she believes being the pioneer isn’t always bad. “Almost 25 years ago, Austin Energy was the first to launch a green building initiative ... focused on helping develop ambitious energy codes and appliance standards,” she recalls. Not only did that initiative ultimately become “the inspiration and the impetus for the U.S. Green Building Council and their LEED rating system,” she says, but it has brought significant energy savings to ratepayers.



White says that Austin’s leadership is important to the solar industry because local achievements reverberate beyond city limits. “Policies that have been enacted here have already influenced policies in other places,” she says, pointing to solar-crediting strategies taken up in Minnesota and other states. Moreover, from an innovation diffusion perspective, solar – given high up-front costs – is the kind of product that is particularly dependent on influential first adopters. “One of the biggest drivers of whether or not somebody gets solar is if somebody they know or somebody they live near already has done it,” says White. In this way, AE programs influence not just AE’s service territory but neighboring areas

“Somebody told me that the pioneers got shot,” says Deborah Kimberly, “and the settlers got the land.”

as well. “In the past two years especially, installations in areas without rebates that are near to Austin have picked up,” says White. “When you look at where ... installations have been, it really does kind of spread out from Austin.”

When thinking about leadership, AE’s fundamental concern is ensuring that benefits accrue appreciably to its customers. “It’s important to be a leader not only in the sense of being the first person to do something but the first person to do something right,” says Osborne. “I generally say I like to be about five to 10 years behind California, because that’s worked very well for us. The first California wind farms were very expensive. When our wind industry took off here, it was at prices that no one had ever seen before.”

The future of energy prices is, of course, the great unknown in the utility business. AE’s affordability metrics are one tool it has

for protecting customers from that risk, but they are imperfect. For instance, the 2% cap on rate increases does not necessarily apply specifically to any one customer class, be it industrial, commercial, or residential. Rates for one class could pierce the 2% cap while another’s fall far below, technically meeting the 2% constraint overall while in fact imposing a greater burden on some than others. “Firming up” the metrics – a problem not addressed in the Generation Plan – is one of the things Shalabi hopes to see the new City Council address.

Also omitted from the Generation Plan are the task force recommendations – such as those pertaining to energy efficiency – that would benefit low-income ratepayers,

says task force member Carol Biedrzycki, executive director of Texas Ratepayers’ Organization to Save Energy. Biedrzycki serves on the Low Income Consumer Advisory Task Force,

a new group formed by council last fall to make recommendations regarding programs to benefit low- and moderate-income ratepayers. With those recommendations due this summer, Biedrzycki hopes to see them folded into the plan.

“Everybody got really excited, upset, etc. about the Gen Plan, but it’s a living breathing document that will change,” says Reed. With little else guaranteed to happen under the plan in 2015 – aside from the issuance, likely this month, of an RFP for the gas plant study – there may be plenty of time for new rounds of dabbling, perhaps prompted by a brand new Council. Ultimately, the plan is not so much about what’s written in the document now, but how well it serves as a guidepost in the coming years. As Pipkin says, “It’s really a framework of how we value and position energy as a part of our community ethos.” ■

NEW OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepherd



Undersheriff Noel Stephen of Okeechobee County, Fla., acknowledged to WPBF-TV in December that among the public services his office performs is supervising parents' spanking of children. After two sisters argued on Dec. 29, their father decided to administer a whipping to one and asked Deputy Stephen to drop by and make sure he stayed within the law. That's "not something we advertise to do," said the deputy, but he estimates he has monitored about a dozen spankings.

Man's Other Best Friends

People's love for their pets reached a new high in December when a British man paid a veterinarian the equivalent of \$500 to perform delicate surgery on a sick office goldfish (typical pet store "replacement" price: \$1 to \$5). Vet Faye Bethell of North Walsham, England, told the *Eastern Daily Press* in December that there was "nothing special" about the fish, but that the customer "just liked it a lot." In fact, the goldfish likely did not even have a pet name – as Bethell in an interview spoke intimately of another patient by name (Cadbury, the skunk). (Bethell's procedure involved removing the patient from the bowl, flooding its gills with anesthetic-fortified water, and using a tiny scalpel to remove lumps that were causing it constipation, with the surgery guided by a miniature heart-rate monitor.)

Iraqi TV Goes Jerry Springer

Iraq's government-run channel, Al-Iraqiyya TV, has a reality show reminiscent of American confrontational programs, but is designed to force captured ISIS fighters to acknowledge the pain they have created. One episode of *In the Grip of the Law* (described in a December Associated Press dispatch) showed family members of car-bombing victims on a street corner in Baghdad haranguing one of the men convicted of the crime. A young man in a wheelchair, having lost his father in the attack, faced off against the convict, screaming until the jihadist "began weeping, as the cameras rolled."

Wait, What?

On Nov. 6, a couple (aged 68 and 65) were hospitalized after spending almost 13 hours locked in their car inside their own garage in

Alexandra, New Zealand. The night before, they had been unable to remember a salesman's tutorial on how to unlock their new Mazda3 from the inside and had spent the night assuming they were trapped because they had forgotten to bring along the battery-operated key. The wife was unconscious when neighbors finally noticed them, and her husband was struggling to breathe. (The door unlocks manually, of course.)

At first, it seemed another textbook case of a wrongly convicted murderer being released after a long prison stint (15 years), based on a re-examination of evidence. Illinois officials freed Alstary Simon, who had "confessed" in 1999 to killing two teenagers (before a defendants' advocacy organization convinced a judge that the confession had been coerced). That 1999 confession had allowed the man previously convicted, Anthony Porter, to go free, but prosecutors in October 2014 had second – or third – thoughts. They once again believe that Porter was the killer – even though a different defendants' advocacy organization had originally worked to free him. (In any event, "double jeopardy" prevents Porter's retrial.)

Government in Action

The U.S. Government Accountability Office was on the job in December, issuing an emphatic ruling that the National Weather Service could not legally issue its workers disposable cups, plates, and utensils on the job. Such items are "personal," GAO declared, even though most NWS facilities are in remote locations, staffed by two-person shifts that almost force employees to eat on the premises. "You can't run out" and "grab a burger," one employee said. Nonetheless, after a lengthy deliberative process, GAO said its decision is final.

Best Recent Foreign News

Championship-Level Theft: China's Gxnews.com reported in December the arrest of a man in Yulin City, accused of stealing more than 2,000 items of underwear from women in his neighborhood, taken within the last year. He hid his stash above ceiling tiles in stairwells in his apartment building, but he drew attention when one of the ceiling spaces caved in from the weight of the garments, showering the stairs in an array of colorful lingerie. (Just within the last month, according to Hong Kong's *South China Morning Post*, two other men, in Zhejiang and Hubei provinces, have been detained for similar crimes. In the latter case, the alleged thief was also wearing lingerie.)

British makeup artist Jordan James Parke, 23, told London's *The Sun* in December how he had fallen in love with the look of U.S. celebrity Kim Kardashian and thus had forced himself to spend the equivalent of about \$150,000 on "more than 50" cosmetic procedures to adopt her "pouty" look, including lip and cheek fillers, eyebrow tattoos, and laser hair removal. "I love everything about Kim ... the most gorgeous woman ever," he said. "Her skin is perfect, her hair, everything about her" (except that, in the *Sun* report, only her parts above the neck were mentioned).

Artist Megumi Igarashi, 42, known as "no-good girl" in Japan, taunted officials with over-the-top pornography twice in 2014, first in July when she designed a kayak in the image of her genitals and then sought donations by sending contributors data on how to make a 3-D-printed model of her vagina. In her December arrest, according to a BBC News dispatch, she had complained of the contradictions in Japanese culture (also cited in previous "News of the Weird" stories) that allow glorified public displays of the penis as a symbol of fertility, but banish the vulva from public sight.

Recurring Themes

Hopeful Signs for the New Year: 1) Police in Phoenix estimate celebratory gunfire into the air on New Year's Eve was down 22% from last year, since the department received reports on only 206 bullets discharged without concern for where they would land. 2) Authorities in Paris estimated that 12% fewer cars were set on fire in France on New Year's Eve, with only 940 strangers' vehicles mindlessly torched instead of last year's 1,067.

Recurring, With Different Result: A court in Buenos Aires, Argentina, granted a "habeas corpus" petition in December ordering the freedom of a Sumatran orangutan from Buenos Aires Zoo. Sandra, age 29, is a "non-human person" and thus sufficiently advanced in "cognitive function" to be not merely an object that humans can own without obligation. A Reuters report found no similar judgment on record, but rather, contrary recent rulings in New York (regarding Tommy the chimpanzee) and San Diego (on behalf of orca whales).

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at www.newsoftheweird.blogspot.com (or www.newsoftheweird.com).

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CALENDAR

JANUARY 15-22

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE WEEK-MINDED

15 THURSDAY



JAY BOLOTIN: WOODCUT MOTION PICTURE ARTIST

Off Center, 5:30pm

COMMUNITY: **MLK Oratory Competition**

Carver Museum, 6pm

THEATRE: **FronteraFest** Hyde Park Theatre, all week

FILM: **Celine and Julie Go Boating** Marchesa Hall & Theatre, 7:30pm

GAY PLACE: **Sextrack** North Door, 8pm

FILM: **Raw Force** Alamo South Lamar, 10pm

16 FRIDAY



STAR OF TEXAS TATTOO ART REVIVAL

Palmer Events Center, Friday-Sunday

COMMUNITY: **Home & Garden Show** Austin Convention Center, Friday-Sunday

LITERA: **Austin Book, Paper, & Photo Show** Northcross Mall, Friday & Saturday

FILM: **The Lodger** Alamo South Lamar, 7pm

MUSIC: **Discos Peligrosa Launch** Empire Control Room

MUSIC: **Ben Howard** Austin Music Hall

17 SATURDAY



LATASHA LEE & THE BLACKTIES

Lamberts

SPORTS: **UT Basketball** Frank Erwin Center, noon & 5:15pm

FILM: **There Will Be Blood** Alamo Ritz, 3:45pm

THEATRE: **Ante Up for Arts With Rude Mechs** Off Center, 8pm

MUSIC: **Rosie & the Ramblers, Redd Volkaert** Continental Club

COMEDY: **Matt Sadler** Velveeta Room, 9 & 11pm

18 SUNDAY



PHENOMENA AND LABYRINTH

Marchesa Hall, noon

KIDS: **The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley** Paramount Theatre, 2pm

DANCE: **The Tuning Project** Hancock Rec. Center Ballroom, 2:30 & 7pm

MEAL TIMES: **Somms Under Fire Finals** AT&T Executive Education Center, 6pm

MUSIC: **Midge Ure** Cactus Cafe

MUSIC: **Jam Fest** Belmont

FILM: **Winterbeast** Alamo Ritz, 10:30pm

19 MONDAY



MLK COMMUNITY MARCH & FESTIVAL

Huston-Tillotson University, 9am-3pm

MUSIC: **Church on Monday** Continental Club Gallery

FILM: **An Unreal Dream: The Michael Morton Story** Alamo Village, 7pm

FILM: **Savage Gold** Austin Studios, 8pm

20 TUESDAY



WWE SMACKDOWN

Frank Erwin Center, 6:45pm

LITERA: **Mary Helen Specht** BookPeople, 7pm

COMEDY: **All's Well With Mac & Joe** Cap City Comedy Club, 8pm

MUSIC: **Don Walser's Pure Texas Band Reunion** Broken Spoke

MUSIC: **Machine Head** Red 7

MUSIC: **Arthur Brown** Strange Brew

21 WEDNESDAY



FOOD

North Door

MEAL TIMES: **Porchetta Class** Wheatsville, 6:30pm

FILM: **Don't Look Now** Alamo Ritz, 6:45pm

COMMUNITY: **AMF Music Panel** Strange Brew, 7-9pm

FILM: **Outlaw Blues** Marchesa Hall, 7:30pm

MUSIC: **Sole, Clemits** Holy Mountain

22 THURSDAY



"EXTREMEZZOTINTS"

Slugfest Gallery

FILM: **Va Savoir** Marchesa Hall, 7:30pm

MUSIC: **Lera Lynn** Cactus Cafe

MUSIC: **Friends of Tony Campise** Elephant Room

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- 6:30 p.m.** *Perspectives:* Blanton curator Beverly Adams discusses Surrealism in Latin American art
- 6:30 p.m.** Spanish-language tour (Tour en Español)
- 7:30 p.m.** *Art Gazes* talk: Dawoud Bey's *Kenosha I*

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ARTS & CULTURE

Do I Stay or Do I Go?

IN HER DEBUT NOVEL *MIGRATORY ANIMALS*, AUSTIN AUTHOR MARY HELEN SPECHT EXPLORES THE PUSH AND PULL OF PLACE

by Jessi Cape

West Texas native Mary Helen Specht intended to leave her home state in her rearview mirror, but Austin's writing community fortuitously bewitched her. Now in her third year teaching creative writing at St. Edward's University, Specht uses a "kaleidoscope of viewpoints" and inspiration from her time as a Fulbright Scholar in Nigeria to tell a remarkable story that crosses the East-West hemispheric divide. Her debut novel *Migratory Animals* (Harper Perennial, 320pp., \$14.99) explores the ideas of home and health, family and future, and the paths cut by love and pain as a young scientist doing research in Nigeria must return to Austin and help her sister cope with the same disease that killed their mother. Prior to her hometown launch of the novel at BookPeople on Tuesday, Jan. 20, Specht spoke with the *Chronicle* about research for the novel and writing about Austin. (For more of our interview with Specht, visit austinchronicle.com/daily/books.)



Mary Helen Specht

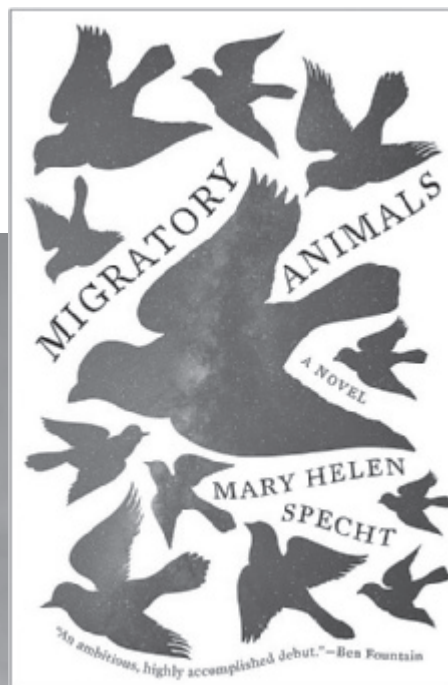
Austin Chronicle: How does it feel to debut at BookPeople, to be in front of a community you've worked with professionally for awhile, in a new way?

Mary Helen Specht: I mean, on a certain level I have to admit, like most writers, I'm an introvert, so I'm more comfortable by myself working on my writing. But that said, having spent a long time trying to get this novel finished, and to a place where it could go out into the world, I'm very excited to actually have real people reading it and to go and talk to people about the book. So, half excited and half terrified.

AC: I think that's normal. From what I can tell, you're a pretty liberal arts-minded person, so how did you decide Flannery would be a scientist?

MHS: Good question. First, I would say that I love doing research for my books. I feel like sometimes, especially with younger students, there's this misconception that empathy as a

writer – like imagining characters that are unlike you – just comes from a kind of force of will. Like you just sit down and think really hard and all of a sudden you can understand other people's experiences. I think it's really much more about research and observation and looking at the concrete details of their daily lives. I just love that aspect of writing, so when I was developing Flannery, I started with the idea of place. A woman who comes to Africa not necessarily expecting to stay, but she's fallen in love – with Nigeria and with the people she's met there. But I also wanted to explore the idea of the white-savior complex in a way. Of coming to a marginalized place and having this idea of wanting to save it – which, on the surface, sounds great, but it's also very problematic, of course. I thought making her a scientist doing work in climate would be a way to kind of explore that tension.



AC: Speaking of research, I think anyone who's dealt with a family illness could relate to parts of your book – the pain in the story is palpable. Is this from personal experience, or was it something you had to research?

MHS: Thanks for saying that – what you said is precisely what I was hoping to do. I don't have Huntington's Disease in my family, but I was working initially with the sisters and with the idea of other diseases that I had more personal connection with. When I was driving to visit my parents in Abilene

actually, I heard Charles Sabine on NPR talking about his experience having Huntington's in his family. His father died of it and his brother had been tested, and he was trying to decide whether or not he would be tested for the disease. Of course, there's no cure, so it's very fraught to decide if you want to be tested. I was really moved by the story but also by the universality. In HD, the children watch their parents die kind of slowly and horrifically from a disease they have a 50% chance of inheriting, and I felt like that's kind of a twisted and magnified version of what we all go through to some degree. You know, watching our parents age, whatever challenges are in our particular gene pool or circumstance, and seeing, in a way, our own futures. I felt like HD was an acute but magnified version of what I thought was the common human experience.

SEEN



MAC AND JOE – as in 2013 Funniest Person in Austin Mac Blake and Jazz Cigarette co-host Joe Hafkey – launched their successor to Matt Bearden's prized stand-up showcase, *PUNCH!*, on Tuesday, Jan. 13. Titled *All's Well*, the comedy show will take place at 8pm every Tuesday at Cap City Comedy Club, 8120 Research. Wayne Alan Brenner provides a little more on the lowdown at austinchronicle.com/daily/arts

SOON



LUIS JIMÉNEZ'S *Sodbuster*, San Isidro, one of the late El Paso artist's signature fiberglass sculptures, starts plowing through the Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum Jan. 20. The colorful 24-foot depiction of a white-bearded farmer tilling the earth with the aid of two massive oxen straining at the yoke, is being loaned to the Umlauf by the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas and will be on display through April 19.

AC: I have to ask: Is *El Gatón* a twist on *Barfly's*? The fire escape staircase, sitting right above Burger Tex, I'm reading that thinking it's gotta be *Barfly's*, but the "wall of wine" threw me.

MHS: [Laughs] Yeah, basically I was thinking of *Barfly's*. What I did was imagine if *Vino* had opened and taken over *Barfly's*. With fiction, I never feel tied down to being perfectly accurate, so I like to play with it. You know, capturing Austin was a lot harder than I thought it would be.

Mary Helen Specht will be reading from and signing copies of *Migratory Animals* Tuesday, Jan. 20, 7pm, at BookPeople, 609 Lamar. For more information, visit www.bookpeople.com.

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LOS ANGELES TIMES

Photos by: Heather Phelps-Lipton, Roger Lavin



JANUARY 26

Marky Ramone Live

With Rock 'N' Roll High School

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Canadian Brass

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JANUARY 30

Bill Bryson

The best-selling author delights with his quirky observations, eye-opening tales and self-effacing humor.



FEBRUARY 3-8

Date*

The hits and misses of internet dating are comically explored in one woman's quest to find love on-line. If you've ever sought a soul-mate in cyberspace, this one's for you!



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Open Edition

PrintAustin enters its second year with startling growth in scale and scope

BY SETH ORION SCHWAIGER

PrintAustin founders Elvia Perrin and Cathy Savage have transmuted the print-centric reputation of Austin into a well-attended monthlong program of exhibitions and events, and have managed to stitch together Austin's many diverse printmaking circles in the process. Chasing after the coattails of the East Austin Studio Tour and West Austin Studio Tour, PrintAustin looks to be the next largest visual arts festival in the city, and by all measures is growing on the same exponential curve of the early years of the studio tours. Regardless of whether you wrote your Ph.D. thesis on the evolution of offset lithography or your only experience with art is the dorm room poster of your favorite band, PrintAustin should pique your interest. Most events are free to attend, and the festival is still at a size that's easy to wrap your head around.

Running on Austin's seemingly insatiable appetite for festivals, PrintAustin debuted its sprawling monthlong programming of all things printmaking this time last year. It's doing it again for 2015, this time with significantly more support, a larger group of events and participating venues (increasing from 50 to 80+), and an increased, less strictly local purview. As in 2014, PrintAustin is showing just about anything you could call a print, from the decorative to commercial product and poster design to highbrow contemporary art; unique works on paper, editions, even sculpture. Viewers can expect to see a wide array of screenprints, woodcuts, linocuts, letterpress, intaglio, etchings, new experimental process-based works, and archaic time-consuming mezzotints.

Not familiar with all of those? You could be in the next few weeks. Alongside exhibitions, expositions, and print exchanges, PrintAustin is ramping up the educational component of the festival, increasing the number of workshops

for those who like to get their hands dirty, including discounted classes at the Contemporary Austin's art school at Laguna Gloria. For those of you less inclined to get ink under your fingernails, spend Jan. 24 at the University of Texas. See selected prints at the Ransom Center that morning, then head over to the Blanton Museum of Art for a brief Print 101 seminar with art historian Dr. Karen Pope, followed by a "Printmaking and the Artist" panel discussion moderated by Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum curator Dr. Katie Edwards and featuring notable panelists Sterling Allen, Veronica Ceci, Katherine Brimberry, and Bob Schneider. Cap off the day by viewing an encyclopedic collection of prints at the Blanton's Julia Mathews Wilkinson Center for Prints and Drawing.

Regardless of previous arts education or whether you can keep your monotypes straight from your monoprints, if you're only going to see one exhibition, then it should be "The Contemporary Print," opening Jan. 15. Like last year, PrintAustin's anchor art show will be held at Big Medium, set at the festival's epicenter in Canopy. Chosen from 600 national applicants, this show of 25 works is curated by Big Medium exhibition manager Kevin McNamee-Tweed and guest curator Kathryn Polk. McNamee-Tweed has knocked it out of the park with the last string of exhibitions at Big Medium (Barna Kantor's "40hz," Claire Falkenberg,

Matthew Feyld, Jessica Halonen, etc.), and that in itself is reason enough to go. Polk (whose own work will be on display at Wally Workman Gallery) runs a lithography studio out of Tucson. Her many years of experience as an active printmaker (artworks in numerous university and museum collections) gives additional gravity to the jury's selections. It's a smart move to combine local and outside curation given the increased scope of the call for entries. With any luck, the Austin contingent will still shine the brightest next to their non-Texan neighbors.

If you are less interested in such a mediated experience or just want to see more than 25 prints in one go *or* are just looking for the cheapest original artwork you can find, mark your calendars for the PrintExpo, Feb. 7. The outdoor exposition held at Canopy is a new addition this year comprised of individuals presenting their print-based businesses alongside the unfortunately named Bin Fest – a vast collection of inexpensive, plastic-wrapped prints you can flip through and purchase at your leisure. (Oh, the benefits of editing.)

The Expo and the rest of PrintAustin can induce EAST flashbacks, and not just because of the increased size this year – alongside the usual venues, plenty of individual studios will be opening up for the general public as well. You can see a slew of them on Jan. 17 at Canopy. Exhibiting earlier this year at N Space, Ryan Cronk's "Moku Hanga: Japanese Woodcut Techniques" demos are promising (Bldg. 1, #123), along with the sure-to-be-sharp "Translating Design: Prints by Oen Hammonds" (Bldg. 1, #220), but there are plenty of others worth a visit. Additional studios will be open outside of Canopy at Pump Project and Artpost just a few blocks away.

Of course, that's all without mentioning the bedrock of PrintAustin, those individual printshops and design firms that thrived off of a steady demand from independent music for posters, T-shirts, album covers, and other merch. These along with UT's printmaking reputation and significant print holdings laid the groundwork for Austin as a printmaking capital – places such as Slugfest Printmaking Workshop and Gallery, Rural Rooster, Bearded Lady Screen Printing, and Flatbed Press, most of which will also be taking part in PrintAustin 2015. Names like Mason McFee, Rich Cali, and Jules Buck Jones will have most folks in the know heading to Bearded Lady for its "Serigraph Show" Jan. 16, though anyone familiar with the velvety black only possible through the labor-intensive mezzotint process may cut out early for Slugfest's "ExtreMezzotints" that same night.

Printmakers in general are no stranger to collaborative efforts, their craft being centered around an impractically large, expensive press. From education onward, most printmakers find themselves sharing a workshop with others to split the burden. If the Austin art scene has anything to tell us, it's that strange and wonderful things can arise from collaboration, and it seems only natural that PrintAustin would be as much of a success

If the Austin art scene has anything to tell us, it's that strange and wonderful things can arise from collaboration, and it seems only natural that PrintAustin would be as much of a success as it is, being managed by those whose everyday labor is built around working in concert with others.

as it is, being managed by those whose everyday labor is built around working in concert with others. Perhaps that's why PrintAustin seems so accessible and multifaceted. Museum snob, studio junkie, scenester, or complete novice, PrintAustin is the place and time to get your printmaking fix for the year and maybe brush up on (or learn for the first time) a little technique, history, and vocabulary while you're at it. ■

PrintAustin takes place Jan. 15-Feb. 15 at galleries, museums, and printshops all across Austin. For more information, including a complete schedule, visit www.printaustin.org.



TASTE IT ALL

**WARNING: This product
can cause mouth cancer.**

ARTS LISTINGS

In Sight of the Promised Land

The Mountaintop measures MLK's journey for civil rights, but says we still have a ways to go

BY ROBERT FAIRES

Moses in a Memphis motel room, April 1968.

That's the portrait painted by Katori Hall in her compelling 2009 drama, its subject being Martin Luther King Jr. on the last night of his life. Taking her cue from the final speech given by the civil rights leader – the one which ended with him telling the crowd that he, like the Biblical patriarch who led his people out of Egypt, might not live to enter the “Promised Land” with them, but that he'd seen it from the mountain's top – the playwright carries us deeper into the dark and stormy night following that portentous address, probing MLK's humanity, mortality, destiny, and legacy in the modest confines of Room 306 of the Lorraine Motel.

Hall begins by stripping off the saintly robes that have accumulated on King in death, taking pains to reveal the *man* in Martin: craving a pack of Pall Malls and impatiently peering out the door for Ralph Abernathy to bring it to him, emptying his bladder in the toilet, shedding



THE MOUNTAINTOP
Austin Playhouse at
Highland Mall, 6001 Airport
www.austinplayhouse.com
Through Jan. 25
Running time: 1 hr., 20 min.

his shoes and wincing at the odor of his own “stanky” feet, appreciatively eyeing the figure of the maid who brings him some coffee. This is an MLK with appetites and desires, and in Austin Playhouse's staging, under the steady hand of Producing Artistic Director Don Toner, Marc Pouhé conveys them with such earthy gusto that, however much talk there may be of the spiritual – and in time there will be much – we never lose sight of this King as bound in flesh and blood. He is no monumental martyr cut from marble, but someone human-sized and mortal – almost painfully so.

This becomes clear as King's extended conversation with that maid – to whom there's more than meets the eye – delves into matters of greater consequence than smokes and MLK's mustache. They speak of the fight for civil rights, race relations, hatred, violence, the threats against King, and the death that inevitably awaits him, and whatever the subject, the word “fear” surfaces like the thunderclaps that

break in on them scene after scene. It is the thing that blacks and whites share, King insists: “We all scared – scared of each other, scared of ourselves. Fear makes us human.” Later, he even says that fear “has become my companion, my lover,” and at one point, we see the depths of that intimacy when one of those thunderclaps robs him of breath. As his King falls back, clutching at his collar, the terror in Pouhé's face is almost unbearable, and his panicked repetition of the phrase, “I can't breathe” adds a chilling resonance to the moment.

That isn't the only scene where this play, rooted in the past, summons the present. As talk turns to the time after King's death and what that “Promised Land” might look like for the people who have fought so hard for equality and justice, Hall turns the play's gaze forward and creates space to consider MLK's legacy. In a striking sequence that breaks free of the play's naturalism, Carla Nickerson – who, as the maid, Camae, has gracefully shapeshifted

her way through shyness and flirtatiousness, cynicism and hope, censure and comfort, the sacred and the profane – turns poetic cantor and chants her way through the 45 years of American history since MLK's assassination, both the civil rights triumphs and tragedies. One is left with a powerful sense of both the progress we owe to King and how much of the battle is still left to be fought. When it concludes, a newly impassioned MLK speaks to the audience, his future, of the Promised Land, imploring us, like Moses, to finish the journey he couldn't. “Your time is *now*,” he says. And in that plea an echo can be heard that puts truth to its urgency: “I can't breathe.” – Robert Faires



COURTESY OF CHRISTOPHER LOVELESS

Carla Nickerson
and Marc Pouhé

THEATRE

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NO SHAME THEATRE Kerri Lendo hosts this legendary open-mic performance gig that provides a venue for things you probably wouldn't see anywhere else. *Fri., Jan. 16, 10pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 512/474-7886. Free. www.gnaptheater.org.*

THE AMAZING ACRO-CATS It's like ... *herding* cats. But endearing, in its way, especially if you like cats, as the felines more or less go through their trained and tricky paces and **eventually wind up playing instruments in a sort of miniature rock band**. *Jan. 17-18. Sat., 5 & 8pm; Sun., 2 & 5pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 512/472-5470. \$28. www.austintheatre.org.*

ANTE UP FOR ARTS WITH RUDE MECHS

The invitation to this fundraiser says, “Join us for a night of cool games, dorky games, and really good times,” but that's an understatement, of course, because those **Rude MechS** don't just knock together a half-assed shindig, tell you what. They're wrangling up the **Bingo**, **Monopoly**, **Magic: the Gathering**, **Risk**, **Killer Bunnies**, and more like that; they've got **DJ Micky Jay** working the vinyl; they've got **Graham Reynolds** as your Game Guide, abetted by that **Golden Arm Trio**; and how about **Rebecca Havemeyer** as your hostess with the mostest? Suggestion: Help support some of the world's best theatre right here in the ATX and have yourself a night of fun. *The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 512/476-7833. \$25. www.rudemechs.com.*



Changelings

Playwright **Reina Hardy**'s new drama conjures a magical realm beneath the very foundations of Austin, blending fantasy and adventure to create “an entertaining yet unnerving pop mythology.” This **world premiere presentation** of humans falling athwart the machinations of the Unseelie Court is directed by **Rudy Ramirez** for the Vortex, integrating puppetry, acrobatics, and original music.

Thu.-Sun., Jan. 16-Feb. 7, 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 512/478-5282. \$10-30. www.vortexrep.org.

WEIRD! TRUE HOLLYWOOD TALES:

BAD DADS Lashonda Lester's entertaining biography series returns for a new season of exploring the fucked-up lives of Hollywood celebrities dead and alive, here casting a gimlet eye on a few really fucked-up TV fathers. With **Luke McClory** and special guest **Norman Wilkerson** dishing on **Max Wright**, **Stephen Collins**, and **Bill Cosby**. *Sat., Jan. 17, 8pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 512/474-7886. \$10. www.weirdtruetales.com.*

MAMMA MIA! It's the touring, internationally **sensational ABBA musical**, yes. First time it came to town, your listing editor's wife (at the time) reviewed it for the *Chronicle*, opining that the experience was not unlike “being violated from behind by a candy cane.” Of course, it's a diverse world, so maybe that's your idea of a good time, amirite? *Jan. 20-25. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 & 8pm; Sun., 1 & 7pm. Bass Concert Hall, 2350 Robert Dedman Dr., UT campus, 512/471-1444. \$30 and up. www.broadwayinaustin.com.*

THR3E ZISTERS Listen: “Anton Chekhov's Three Sisters have long been dead and buried. Vershinin, Tusenbach, and Suleny **exhume them with the hopes of creating the perfect women for their pleasure**. The sisters, unburied and ready to adapt to a new way of life, learn that there are already very stringent expectations in place for their arrival.” This **Lola Pierson** drama is directed by **Yury Urnov** for **Salvage Vanguard** and features the zombietastic talents of **Caroline Reck**, **Jenny Larson**, and **Heather Hanna**. *Thu.-Sat., Jan. 22-Feb. 14, 8pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 512/474-7886. \$20 and up (pay what you wish, Thursdays). www.salvagevanguard.org.*

DNA This is the regional premiere of **Dennis Kelly**'s dark comedy about a group of teenagers who weave a bloody web of cover-up lies after, ah, murdering one of their friends. Directed by **Molly Karrasch**(!) for **Capital T Theatre**, featuring a cast of fresh new faces and that audience magnet **Nate Jackson**. *Thu.-Sat., Jan. 22-Feb 1, 8pm. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 512/479-7529. \$15-30. www.capitalt.org.*

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/calendar/arts
FOR MORE EVENTS AND INFO

CLOSING

DEUS EX MACHINA Whirligig, Shrewd Productions, and those nonstop fomenterers at **Fusebox** team up to present this live, **choose-your-own-tragic-Greek-adventure** performance that gives total control of the play's storyline to the audience. Written and directed by **Liz Fisher**, acted by a local pantheon of theatre gods and goddesses. *Through Jan. 18. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 512/457-5100. \$24 and up. www.thelongcenter.org.*

ONGOING

THE MOUNTAINTOP See review, above. *Through Jan. 25. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. In the Highland Mall, 6001 Airport. 512/476-0084. \$24. www.austinplayhouse.com.*

MAURITIUS Who says philately will get you nowhere? Witness the conniving and treachery among three (oh let's say *rabid*) stamp collectors who try to pry a rare collection from two sisters who've inherited a pair of doozies in this **Theresa Rebeck** play. Directed by **Mick D'Arcy** for **Different Stages**. *Through Jan. 31. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. City Theatre, 3823-D Airport, 512/524-2870. \$15-30. www.main.org/diffstages.*

COMEDY

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research #100, 512/467-2333. www.capacitycomedy.com.

ALL'S WELL WITH MAC AND JOE That's **Mac Blake** and **Joe Hafkey**, of course: those **Jazz**



What we talk about when we talk late at night: the cast of *The Insomniac's Ball*

THE INSOMNIAC'S BALL

Sessions on Mary, 604 W. Mary
www.bottlealley.co
Running time: 1 hr.

If it weren't for the small "Insomniac's Ball" sign on the fence, you might feel a little odd to be opening the tucked-away gate that leads to the yard. But before you've even reached the porch, the front door opens wide with a hearty greeting from playwright/director Chris Fontanes. You're invited inside the house, given a handmade program, and told to help yourself to the cooler of assorted beverages in the corner. As you proceed to an open chair situated along the perimeter of the living room, you shuffle through torn playing cards strewn about the floor.

In the center of the room, seated at a table enveloped in beer bottles, are three characters playing cards. An eruption from one of them kicks off Fontanes' original play, the first installment of Bottle Alley's current season "based around an introspective study of the present." The setting and premise might sound a bit Sartre-esque, and the reference indeed evoked through the intimate communal environment in which we find ourselves. What unfolds over the next hour is an existential parable of sorts, with character names like "Bad News" and "December," and occasional streams of con-

sciousness emitting from the dialogue. It's a play with the theme of regret and how given circumstances and personalities factor into the equation that yields it.

For me, the most successful element of the evening was the experience created by Bottle Alley. Plenty of plays have been produced in houses before, but site-specific works continue to provide variety for the frequent theatregoer, as well as new contexts for traditional plots and ideas. Fontanes, along with cast members Amber Hales, Tim Olivares, Ariel Gilman, and Justin West, establish a scenario that very much feels like a house party. We've all experienced those long conversations that extend into the wee hours of the morning, whether we're seated at the kitchen table or on the living room couch. Bottle Alley brings this environment to life in multisensory ways (though, be forewarned, that one of these is through the use of cigarettes). Though at times meandering, the script does also include some solid dialogue and moments between characters. The casting choices don't always seem to align especially well with the archetypes suggested by the script, but the four-person ensemble does an admirable job of moving the script along despite some overacting for the tight quarters.

Presence, the present. Awake or asleep, Bottle Alley's *Ball* provides a unique context for experiencing both.

— Adam Roberts

COURTESY OF BOTTLE ALLEY THEATRE COMPANY

HELLO, DOLLY! She celebrates us, and this week, we celebrate her (see Friday).

ON OUR GAYDAR

OUT YOUTH DROP-IN DAYS In a town as welcoming as Austin, it's easy to forget that most of us experience a life that "got better." For many kids, real life is a different story. Fortunately, we have an amazing drop-in center for Q and questioning youth (ages 12-23). *Sundays and Wednesdays (ages 12-19), Thursdays (ages 18-23), 4:30-8:30pm. Out Youth, 909 E. 49½, 512/419-1233. www.outyouth.org.*

AFTER SOME REFLECTION Featuring the works of Jenny Granberry, Jaelah Kuehmichel, and Joe Sinness. *Show runs through Feb. 8. grayDUCK Gallery, 2213 E. Cesar Chavez, 512/826-5334. www.grayduckgallery.com/hidden/after-some-reflection.*

HEDDA LAYNE Can this disco diva cab it up? You'd better bet your billion-octave range. *Thu. & Fri., Jan. 15 & 16, 7:30pm. Austin Cabaret Theatre, 8611 N. MoPac Expwy. \$39 pre-sale, show only. www.heddalayne.com/calendar.*

SEXTRACK Join BedPost Confessions in a mashup with NYC's Soundtrack Series: Sexy stories about the songs that make up the soundtrack to our lives. *Thu., Jan. 15, 8pm. The North Door, 502 Brushy. \$10. www.bedpostconfessions.com.*

LIZZY CAROLOKE The list is online. Study up, diva. *Third Thursdays, 9pm. Badlands, 1203 Chicon. www.karaoke1ist.net.*

THEME THURSDAYS Alternating themes every week. *Thursdays, 9pm. Stonewall Warehouse, 141 E. Hopkins, San Marcos, 866/620-6667. www.fb.com/stonewallwarehouse.*

JENN & PHANNIE FROM GIRL IN A COMA GIAC "bottoms" (as in bass & drum, silly) take over the ones, the twos, and you, with special guests each month. *Third Thursdays, 11pm. Stonewall Warehouse, 141 E. Hopkins, San Marcos, 866/620-6667. www.fb.com/stonewallwarehouse.*

DOLLY'S BIRTHDAY BASH Celebrate Dolly Day with local roots royalty and a rootin'-tootin' Dolly look-alike contest. *Fri., Jan. 16, 7pm. The High Road, 700 Dawson, 512/442-8535. \$25 (\$20, advance). www.thehighroadondawson.com.*

MILLIONS MARCH TEXAS Two days before the annual MLK celebration in Austin, meet at the MLK statue on the UT campus and march toward the Capitol. Text "millionsmarchTX" to 84483 for updates. *Sat., Jan. 17, noon. MLK statue at UT. millionsmarchtx@gmail.com, www.millionsmarchtx.org.*

LEATHER CIGAR SOCIAL The leather dads at the CD do this once a month. Put that in your non-pipe and smoke it. *Saturdays. Chain Drive, 84 East Ave. (I-35 access road). Free. www.fb.com/chaindriveatx.*

THE BOYS OF AUSTIN DANCE Still Dirty. Still Filthy. Supastar DJ Filthy Rich spins gobs of gay gold. Just gobs of it. *Saturdays, 10pm. Rain on 4th, 217 W. Fourth.*

SUNDAY BRUNCH Hey San Marcoans, the brunch gang at the Stonewall has a mimosa (or 12) with your name on it. Sometimes, your name may require a Bloody Mary, and they have those, too. *Sundays, 11am-3pm. Stonewall Warehouse, 141 E. Hopkins, San Marcos, 866/620-6667. info@stonewallwarehouse.com, www.fb.com/stonewallwarehouse.*

CAPE COD SUNDAYS Come get a big XO from Dan X.O. and the crew. *Sundays, 2-5pm. TapeLenders Video, 1114 W. Fifth #201. Free. www.tapelenders.com.*

GETTING TO KNOW THE GODDESS: LETTERS TO HESTIA An experimental performance featuring an exciting array of readers and written by Linda Marie. *Sun., Jan. 18, 3:30-5:30pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. 105-A, 512/472-2785. Free. www.fb.com/bookwoman.*

MIDGE URE The man from Ultravox, Visage, and even a bit of a tenure with Thin Lizzy, Mr. "Do They Know It's Christmas?" Himself comes to town. *Sun., Jan. 18, 8pm. Cactus Cafe, Texas Union, UT campus, 512/475-6515. \$25. www.midgeure.co.uk.*

SUPER SUNDAYS DIVA SHOW Join divas Kelly Kline and Jenny McCall for a night of divinity, featuring special guests each week, plus a new queen from *RuPaul's Drag Race*. *Sundays, 10:30pm. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth. Free. www.oilcanharrys.com.*



ERIC DRAPER/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



BOUT TIME HAPPY HOUR That's seven happy hours if you're nasty *Mondays, 2-9pm. Bout Time II, 6607 N. I-35. www.bouttime2.com.*

FREE BUFFET Soak up all those drink specials. *Mon.-Fri., 5-7pm. Bout Time II, 6607 N. I-35. Free.*

GEEKS WHO DRINK QUIZ GAME Be a geek. Be a bear! Buy a drink! Win cash prizes! *Mondays, 8-10pm. The Iron Bear, 121 W. Eighth. www.theironbear.com.*

KARAOKE NIGHT Croon and swoon in the land of the baying Bobcats. Meoooooow! *Mondays, 9pm. Stonewall Warehouse, 141 E. Hopkins, San Marcos. www.fb.com/stonewallwarehouse.*

TUEZGAYZ Dependably fruitastic: Austin's legendary weekly weekday gay night on Red River. *Tuesdays, 9pm. Barbarella, 615 Red River. www.fb.com/barbarellaatx.*

CODA Codependent, gay, bi men meet. *Tuesdays, 7pm. Trinity United Methodist Church, 4001 Speedway. By donation. www.codatexas.org.*

LESBUTANTE & THE BOSS: DAPPER STYLE Ooooh, lez and da boss have been having apparent success with the theme nights. This month, they do it up dapple-style. *Wed., Jan. 21, 7pm-12mid. The Gatsby, 708 E. Sixth. www.thegatsbyaustin.com.*

BINGO & DRAG/POOL TOURNAY Enjoy balls in dark little pockets and/or big hair to make you stare each hump day. *Wednesdays: Bingo & Drag, 8pm; Pool, 9pm. Bout Time II, 6607 N. I-35. www.bouttime2.com.*

COLLEGE NIGHT Ages 18 and up are welcome to this collegial night for collegiates (collegiates numbering apx. 99.9% of the town's sparkle population, btw). *Wednesdays. Stonewall Warehouse, 141 E. Hopkins, San Marcos. www.fb.com/stonewallwarehouse.*

BEARAOKE WITH KENNY We expect rousing renditions of "You Otter Know." Rrraw! *Wednesdays, 9:30pm. The Iron Bear, 121 W. Eighth. Free.*

THR3E ZISTERS A little gender twist on Mr. Chekhov never hurt no one. p.s. The sisters? Zombies, of course. *Through Feb. 14. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 512/474-7886. \$20. www.salvagevanguard.org.*

HO-RIZON

GSC SPARKLE PARTY Celebrate a decade of UT's Gender Sexuality Center! Everyone who has every worked with, visited, benefitted from, admired, had a crush on, and hung out in the GSC is welcome. *Fri., Jan. 23, 5:30-8pm. Student Activity Center Auditorium, 2201 Speedway. www.fb.com/UTGSC.*

Send gay bits to gayplace@austinchronicle.com.
See the full array of Gay Place listings at austinchronicle.com/gay.

Cigarette guys, now filling each Tuesday at Cap City with loads of talented locals – so book your seats early. *Tue., Jan. 20, 8pm. \$5-9.*

JUSTIN WILLMAN He's an American magician, actor, comedian, and TV personality, this guy. From *Ellen*. *Chelsea Lately*. *Cupcake Wars*. He's got laughs for you, hell yes, and a bunch of prestidooji – uh, prestidudina – um, *tricks* and so on, in the great comedy-and-magic tradition. **Daniel Kinno** opens. *Jan. 21-24. Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm. \$10-21.*

FORTUNE FEIMSTER The loveable Southern comic with great hair and an even better personality – you know, from *Chelsea Lately*, right? – returns to Cap City for a weekend of her brand of hilarity. *Jan. 15-17. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm. \$17-21.*

COLDTOWNE THEATER 4803-B Airport, 512/814-8696. www.coldtownetheater.com.

Hot Hot Improv from the likes of **Nice Astronaut** and **Kingston**. *Thu., 8:30pm. \$5. The Mission Bob Khosravi's storytelling project features the most interesting locals. *Thu., 10pm. \$5. Movie Riot* They're making up movies, totally improvised, and they're handing out free margaritas and candy. *Fri., 7pm. \$5. Bad Boys*, featuring good improv by boys who are, well, *not all that socially passive*, let's say. *Fri., 8:30pm. \$5. Stand-Up Live* Good comic walks into a bar, Danny Palumbo throws him onstage. *Fri., 10pm. \$5. The Church of Indeterminate Divinity* This show combines "the daring of improv comedy, the excitement of live music, and the crippling existential doubt that's the birthright of*

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Haul of Fame

Back when Mindy Kaling was a writer on *The Office*, she used to have a blog called Things I've Bought That I Love, where she would post pictures of adorable Dean & DeLuca peppermint cookies and scarlet-soled Christian Louboutins and horse-girl hair brushes that cost a hundred dollars but come with a lifetime warranty, and chat about their qualities in highly amusing, charmingly self-deprecating Kalingese. You came away from it wanting to drop \$600 on an Eileen Fisher Seasonless Silk Comforter and then pretend you were in a Nancy Meyers movie, but a Nancy Meyers movie where you just hang out on a silk bedspread eating bonbons and gossiping with your best friend Mindy Kaling instead of having to date some creep. That is the kind of double-barreled aspirationalism I wish I could provide for you, dear reader.

The problem is, I don't have the money for scarlet-soled Christian Louboutins, or even Sam Edelman flats; my beauty routine includes stretching the makeup I applied for the Christmas family picture through New Year's; and the most fascinating thing I eat is the "good ramen," which costs two dollars instead of 50 cents, and to which I add kale and an egg. Instead of bragging about the quality and cuteness of the stuff I buy, I'm going to stick with bragging about its cost/wear ratio.

The cost/wear ratio is a particularly important index of value if, like me, you enjoy buying vintage clothing some might consider "outré." Look into my closet and you will find an array of truly unwearable garments that I somehow convinced myself were great vintage finds. The mascot for the Haul of Shame is a pair of patchwork black leather shorts I bought for five dollars. Not only were these shorts already too small for me on the very day that I bought them, but they were marked down because they were *already ripped* from where someone else tried to squeeze into them. These shorts had killed before. Thrift-store sirens, they had lured other shoppers into absurd behaviors, as evidenced by the peek-a-boo butt cheek with the lining showing through — a palimpsest of delusion.

There is no price, be it ever so low, that can redeem an unwearable piece of clothing. Any eighth-grader not currently failing math can tell you that the quotient of a number divided by zero is undefined.

But thankfully, there are, every year, some Things I've Bought That I Not Only Love, but Wear All the Time. I'd like to give myself a pat

on the back for rescuing a **drop-waisted secretary dress** in dove gray pin-stripes from the final-sale rack outside of Blue Velvet. A baggy, blousy thing with a droopy bow dangling from its Peter Pan collar, it makes me look like a giant Edwardian baby. Paired with the Nine West Sloane ankle booties recommended to me by a cashier at Prototype Vintage at the



Julie Gillis from
"Settlers of Caftan"

AMY GENTRY

beginning of the fall (thanks, **Leslie!**), I have worn it six times so far, never once accidentally flashing my bikini line, and making for a laudable cost/wear ratio of \$0.83.

The crinkly black culottes I call my "**Chico's pants**" deserve a mention as well. Also purchased at Blue Velvet, they weren't originally from Chico's at all, but rather Carole Little, the brand that kept middle-school art teachers and bohemian aunts in flowing ethnic prints throughout the Nineties. The Chico's pants have one of those high waistbands with elastic in the back, which is perfect for the sloppy half-front-tuck currently in fashion, as well as for hiding from yourself

the knowledge that you are wearing an elastic waistband. Plus they're perfect for riding bikes, which, if I were cool enough to ride a bike, I would definitely tell everyone is why I bought them. They cost \$14 and I've worn them maybe two dozen times, costing me a satisfying \$0.58 per wear.

However, the No. 1 most cost-effective garment I bought this year — get ready to be shocked — was my **caftan**. I expressed my love for these giant person-tents earlier this year, in a photo shoot with a bunch of

becaftan'd comedians violating the produce at a local grocery chain ("Settlers of Caftan," July 24). That was a great experience for the models but a terribly scarring experience for me, because I had to leave my own personal caftan at home. And every minute I do not spend in that caftan, for which I paid somewhere in the neighborhood of \$15 at Portland's House of Vintage, is excruciating. It's like wearing a cloud. It's like lying nude on a tuft of fragrant clover in a balmy glade. This year I wore that caftan all over town, up streets and down, with strappy sandals and a cult-leader necklace and a little straw clutch. When the air chilled, I tried wearing it over a turtleneck but was thwarted by aggressive static cling. Nevertheless, a garment that may be worn 'round the clock for eight months of the year has more than earned its keep. I'm going to ballpark it at 50 wears. At \$0.30 per wear, caftans are clearly the most cost-effective option for the style columnist on a budget — especially compared to my knit jacket in mustard polyester with a pattern of playing card suits, only useful if you're an extra in the opening scene of Robert

Altman's *California Split*.

Hey, was that a segue? Yes, *California Split* recently screened at the **Austin Film Society**, and I've been looking for an excuse to talk up an AFS film screening I'm co-presenting: **Dressed Down: Phenomena and Labyrinth With Amy Gentry**, an offshoot of the "**Killer Outfits**" series I wrote last year. Believe me,

this is a crucial pairing. If you're the kind of person who's seen a lot of Dario Argento horror films, you may not have seen *Labyrinth*; if you're the kind of person who's seen *Labyrinth* a hundred times, you may not have seen any Dario Argento. Either way, you are missing out. Both feature a teenaged Jennifer Connelly being dropped into a pit of stinking filth, in, of course, amazing clothes. ■

Dressed Down screens Friday and Sunday, Jan. 16 & 18, at AFS at the Marchesa Theatre, 6226 Middle Fiskville. www.austinfilm.org.

every human.” Ah, yes! Right up our alley of neurotic uncertainty! And that **John Ratliff**’s a big part of the equation, so you know it sums up good and recommended. **Sat., 8:30pm. \$5-8. The Frank Mills** and their smart, character-driven improv, with the sketchers of **Midnight Society. Sat., 10pm. \$7. Play by Play** Commentators gone wild. **Sat., 11pm. \$5.** Aaaaand don’t forget the rest o’ the week, with **Oh, Science!** on Sundays and **Miller and Purselley** on Wednesdays and – yes, check the website!

ESTHER’S FOLLIES 525 E. Sixth, 512/320-0553. www.esthersfollies.com.

RESOLUTION REVOLUTION Musical comedy skits, magic, and a **political satirical revue** with the bustling backdrop of Sixth Street on view through the stagefront window! **So many rollicking send-ups** in this month’s fresh line-up. See just how dysfunctional a family gathering can be. Witness the glory of the hippest Pope of all time. Don’t miss the hilarious “End of the Year Revue” covering all the cultural and political Boehners – sorry, we mean “boners” – committed in 2014. Bonus: The large-scale wonders and arch antics of magician **Ray Anderson**, featuring his new “Cannon Trick.” Come and take it, baby! Reservations recommended. **Thu., 8pm; Fri-Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$25-35.**

THE HIDEOUT THEATRE 617 Congress, 512/476-0473. www.hideouttheatre.com.

The Threefer Three improv troupes, yes. **Thu., 8pm. \$5. Free Fringe** Just about anything goes, because yes. **Thu., 10pm. Free. Date Night** Featuring the Escorts, with Ratliff & Jackson. WOOT! **Fri., 7:30pm. \$5. The Big Bash** Some of the best performers in town invite you to this party on the stage. **Fri., 8pm. \$15. Pgraph Presents** Now playing: **Parallelogramophonograph** and **Available Cupholders. Fri., 10pm. \$10. Maestro RAW** It’s stu-

dent vs. student in improv warrrrrrrr. **Sat., 6pm. \$10. Wanderlust** Improvised tales of travel, love, and longing. **Sat., 8pm. \$12. Maestro** A whole stageful of wild imps, battling for victory. Always recommended, especially if it’s your first time seeing live improv. **Sat., 10pm. \$12. The Weekender** Student showcases, veteran vehicles, and more. **Sun., 8pm. \$5.**



INSTITUTION THEATER 3708 Woodbury, 512/895-9580. www.theinstitutiontheater.com.

Confidence Men with Tom Purcell Oh shiiiiiiiit, they’re working the maximum David Mamet improv firepower here. Recommended. **Fri., Jan. 16, 8pm. \$5. Grumpy Old Improvisers With Tom Booker, Tom Purcell, and Dave Buckman.** Big Bonus: **Available Cupholders. Sat., Jan. 17, 8pm. \$5. Imprompt-Two** Improv duets, yo. **Sun., 7pm. Free. Rubber Room** is an open improv jam, yo, so join in – if you dare. **Sun., 8pm. Free.**

NEW MOVEMENT THEATER 616 Lavaca, 512/788-2669. www.newmovementtheater.com.

Student Union Beware, teachers! **Thu., 7:30pm. Free. Lights Up** Three improv troupes! **Thu., 8:30pm. \$5. Block Party** Comedy open mic, hosted by **Terance McDavid and Yusef Roach. Thu., 9:30pm. Free. The**

Neighborhood. Amy Jordan and her talented friends sketch their brains out for your brains’ pleasure. **Fri., 8:pm. \$7-10. Part II** Competitive movie-sequel pitching. **Fri., 9pm. \$5. Shinebox Stand-up Showcase Fri., 10:30pm. \$5-7. Comedy Underground** Three of the best, here: **Chris Trew, Bad Example,** and **Megaphone.** If you’re going to see one New Movement show this weekend? Make it this one. **Sat., 7:30pm. \$10-12. The Megaphone Show** True stories, truthfully told and then twisted beyond redemption. **Sat., 10:30pm. \$5.** See website for more. (Note: On Wednesdays, the gonzo improv styles of **Good Fight** will chase away your hump-day blues.)

VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 512/469-9116. www.thevelveetaroom.com.

MATT SADLER The Velv keeps that comedy goodness coming, oh yes, because if laughter truly is the best medicine? Then this popular road warrior is Dr. Totally Fuckin’! Hilarious – and we suggest, in the interests of mental health, that you get your ass Downtown for a check-up this weekend. Bonus: **Derek Phelps** opens. **Jan. 16-17. Fri., 9pm; Sat., 9 & 11pm. \$10.**

BUT WAIT - THERE’S MORE!

GET UP! The real dynamic duo of **Shannon McCormick** and **Shana Merlin** perform an improvised



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FronteraFest

The 22nd annual theatrical smorgasbord of local productions — Comedy! Drama! Dance! Improv! Performance art! Diverse shenanigans! — has already begun its slate of 25-minute-long Short Fringe presentations each night (Tue.-Sat., 8pm) at Hyde Park Theatre (511 W. 43rd) and now brings out the Long Fringe showcase of full-length (45-90 minutes) at the Eastside’s rockin’ new Ground Floor Theatre (979 Springdale). See the FronteraFest website for details, yes, but here’s what’s opening in the L.F. this week:

The Biscuiteater by Jim Loucks, directed by Lisa Chess. **Mon., Jan. 19, 7pm; Fri., Jan. 23, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 24, 11pm; Sun., Jan. 25, 2pm. \$15.**

“CODA: Children of Deaf Adults” by Mark Murray, for Two Hands Productions. **Tue., Jan. 20, 9pm; Sun., Jan. 25, 3:45pm; Thu., Jan. 29, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 31, 10:30pm. \$10.**

The King of Texas by Beth Webster, directed by Ken Webster. **Tue., Jan.**

20, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 24, noon; Fri., Jan. 30, 9:15pm; Sun., Feb 1, 6pm. \$15.

My Dinner With Bambi by Randy Lewis. **Thu., Jan. 22, 9:15pm; Sat., Jan. 24, 6:30pm; Wed., Jan. 28, 9:15pm; Sat., Jan. 31, noon. \$10.**

Peck by Amy McAndrew, Cindy Vining, and Johanna Whitmore, for Hourglass Productions. **Mon., Jan. 19, 8:45pm; Wed., Jan. 21, 7pm; Fri., Jan. 23, 8:45pm; Sun., Jan. 25, noon. \$10.**

Stars of David by Abigail Pogrebin, for Austin Jewish Repertory Theater. **Thu., Jan. 22, 7pm; Sun., Jan. 25, 5:15pm; Tue., Jan. 27, 9:15pm; Sun., Feb. 1, noon. \$15.**

The Walls of Jericho by Sandra Metcalf. **Wed., Jan. 21, 9pm; Sat., Jan. 24, 8:45pm; Wed., Jan. 28, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 31, 2:15pm. \$15.**

www.fronterafest.org

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CITY OF AUSTIN

story based on the who-knows-what-premise of audience suggestion, bringing their award-winning skills and surprising gambits to the fore, simply making shit up in a gobsmackingly impressive manner for this night of fun. Bonus: The Knuckleball Now is also featured, and thoseguys are equally talented and possibly even a bit ... zanier. Huzzah! *Fri., Jan. 16, 8pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd. edit, 512/474-7886. \$8.www.salvagevanguard.org.*

DANCE

LOOKING FOR DANCE CLASSES? Swing? Ballet? Tango? Pole-dancing? We've got a myriad of classes listed online, all manner of schools waiting to get your feet firmly on the floor to joyful moves.

THE TUNING PROJECT Julie Nathanielsz presents new work directed by internationally celebrated dancer-choreographer **Karen Nelson**, featuring a fine cast of Austin dancers. *Jan. 17-18. Sat., 4pm; Sun., 2:30 & 7pm. Hancock Center Ballroom, 811 E. 41st. \$18-30. www.julienathanielsz.com.*

TAP DANCERS WANTED Lynda Mattman at **Tap N Texas** is forming a new senior (ages 50-plus) performance group. Must know basic tap steps. Call for information. *512/487-0663. www.tapntexas.com.*

VISUAL ARTS

EVENTS

PRINTAUSTIN See our more extensive coverage on p.30 of this very issue. *Through Feb. 15. Galleries, museums, and printshops all across Austin. www.printaustin.org.*

ROMANI GALLERY: THE BLACKKEYE COLLECTIVE What sort of magnificence and monstrosity do the **best tattoo artists paint** when they're creating work for each other? The latest installment of this annual show, curated by the good people of Austin's **Black Dagger Tattoo**, holds the answer in vibrant array. *Thu., Jan. 15, 8-11pm. 1900 E. 12th. www.theromanigallery.weebly.com.*

JAY BOLOTIN: WOODCUT MOTION PICTURE ARTIST Here's a screening, live performance, and Q&A session featuring the celebrated artist, writer, musician, performer, and filmmaker. It's another part of the wide-ranging and recommended **PrintAustin** presentations. *Thu., Jan. 15, 5:30pm. 2211-A Hidalgo, 512/495-4315. www.landmarks.utexas.edu.*

STEAMPUNK & MAKERS ART SHOW Maybe time to crank up the Abney Park on your brass-chased mini-zeppelin's sound system, citizen, and head over to Sherlock's Baker Street Pub for this display of local steampunk efforts calling itself "Exposition de Laiton, Lumière, et Vapeur," n'est-ce pas? *Tue., Jan. 20, 7-10pm. 9012 Research Ste. C-1, 512/380-9443. www.magiclanternleague.com.*

OPENING

ART.SCIENCE.GALLERY.: INS AND OUTS That subset of the **Raw Paw** arts collective that's known as **CogDut**, who design and produce gorgeous screenprints and other art like whoa? They're featured in this new graphic showcase of **works exploring scale and interactivity between things micro and macro** in our complex universe. Opening reception (with live screenprinting): *Sat., Jan. 17, 6-9pm.* Bonus: in-gallery screenprinting workshop: *Sun., Feb 15 (e-mail to register).* Exhibition: *through Feb. 28. In the Canopy compound, 916 Springdale #102. www.artsciencegallery.com.*

ATM GALLERY: UNCONSCIOUS COLLECTIVE New paintings by **John Tennon**. Bonus: Not Gallery's new opening, too, right next door. Reception: *Fri., Jan. 16, 7-10pm. 5305 Bolm.*

BIG MEDIUM: THE CONTEMPORARY PRINT Last year's PrintAustin show at Big Medium is still reverberating in our memory, and this year's exhibition should have just as much of a positive impact as it's curated by **Kathryn Polk** and **Kevin McNamee-Tweed** and features a **champion's gallery of Austin printmakers**. And of course it's in the heart of Canopy, so it's surrounded by all sorts of other great art to see, too. Bonus: Sa-Tén Cafe, right there. Reception: *Sat., Jan. 17, 6-9pm.* Exhibition: *through Feb. 21. Tue.-Sat., noon-6pm. 916 Springdale. www.canopyaustin.com.*

FLATBED PRESS Peregrine Press: A Texas Legacy More than 40 landmark works from the acclaimed press that operated from 1981 to 1991 in



Slugfest Gallery: EXTREMEZZOTINTS Prints by five mezzotint masters. Prints that grab your eyes by the lapels and whisper "Look, pallies, this is what ink and paper can do. This is what your art-hungry retinae have been jonesing to have etched on 'em forever." Featuring works by Sean Caulfield, Robert De Groff, Francisco Souto, Carol Wax, and Art Werger.

Reception: *Fri., Jan. 16, 6-9pm.* Exhibition: *through Feb. 15. Tue.-Sat., 1:30-6pm. 1906 Miriam, 512/477-7204. www.slugfestprints.com.*

Dallas. **Katherine Brimberry interviews Peregrine's master printer Mike Hart:** *Fri., Jan. 16, 5:30pm (reception follows).* Exhibition: *through March 7. Outside the Lines* The odd and brilliant works of **Bob Schneider** and **Terry Allen**. Reception: *Fri., Jan. 16, 6-8pm.* Exhibition: *through Feb. 10. 2830 E. MLK, 512/477-9328. www.flatbedpress.com.*

GALLERY SHOAL CREEK: KOICHI YAMAMOTO + KAREN KUNC + SARAH AMOS Works by these three internationally acclaimed printmakers are featured in conjunction with that excellent program called, yes, PrintAustin. Reception: *Fri., Jan. 16, 6-8pm.* Exhibition: *through Feb. 12. 2830 E. MLK, 512/477-9328. www.galleryshoalcreek.com.*

NOT GALLERY: THE ONE-TWO-THREE-FOUR-FIVE-(SIX-SEVEN?) PUNCH Houston's **Taylor Smith** gets a solo show for his creative explorations at this Eastside venue. Bonus: ATM Gallery's new opening, right next door. *Fri., Jan. 16, 7-10pm. 5305 Bolm.*

PHOTO MÉTHODE GALLERY: LEFT BANK PHOTOGRAVURES Hannah Neal uses the same lighting techniques, materials, and traditional processes employed by the **Pictorialist** and **Modernist** photographers of the early 20th century to create portraits of artists, dancers, writers, musicians, and others whose work inspires. Opening reception: *Fri., Jan. 16, 6-8pm.* Closing reception: *Fri., Feb. 27, 6-8pm. 2830 E. MLK, 512/477-9328. www.photomethode.com.*

WALLY WORKMAN: IN HER PLACE As if it's not enough that the popular Workman venue has Gordon Fowler represented in the main gallery downstairs, now they're opening this excellent show of **beautiful, arch, and delicately colored lithographs** from **Kathryn Polk** in the upstairs space. Win-win, we think this kind of situation is called. Reception: *Thu., Jan. 15, 6-8pm.* Exhibition: *through Feb. 14. 1202 W. Sixth, 512/472-7428. www.wallyworkmangallery.com.*

TESTSITE: STEVEN TOMLINSON: NOTEBOOKS Want to see how a relentless flood of thoughts are organized on paper by one man keeping a series of visually compelling notebooks? You do if that man is Steven Tomlinson – economist, minister, playwright, performer, **one hell of a smart guy with many wise insights** – and you can, because here's a **Fluent~Collaborative** exhibition, "Just Because 15.1," displaying pages and pages and pages of those notebooks. Opening reception: *Sun., Jan. 18, 4-6pm. 502 W. 33rd. Workshop: Thinking Aloud on Paper: Mon., Jan. 26, 6-8pm.* Exhibition: *through Feb. 15. Sundays, 4-6pm. www.fluentcol-lab.org/testsite.*

UMLAUF SCULPTURE GARDEN: SODBUSTER The always welcoming Umlauf plays

host to *Sodbuster, San Isidro (1995)*, a stunning, 24-foot fiberglass sculpture by legendary artist **Luis Jiménez**, presented in the context of other Jiménez works. *Jan. 21-April 19. Tue.-Fri., 10am-4pm; Sat.-Sun., noon-4pm. 605 Robert E. Lee, 512/445-5582. \$5 (\$3, seniors; \$1 students). www.umlau sculpture.org.*

YARD DOG FOLK ART: JIM SHERRADEN Here's an impressive showcase of black-and-white and multicolored works – "**Personal Woodcuts: 1983 to Present**" – by this master printer from Nashville's Hatch Show Print. Exhibition: *Jan. 15-Feb. 28.* Reception: *Sat., Jan. 24, 7-9pm. 1510 S. Congress, 512/912-1613. www.yarddog.com.*

CLOSING

AUSTIN ART SPACE: TEXAS IN COLOR New works celebrating the Lone Star State are featured in this solo exhibition by San Francisco artist **Kate Muirhead**. *Through Jan. 17. 7739-Q Northcross Dr. www.austinartspace.com.*

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: HEAD An exhibition of projection paintings by **Donald Moffett**, aimed toward "expanding the viewer's experience of a painting into an immersive, dynamic, time-based, content-driven one." *Through Jan. 17. 360 Nueces #50, 512/215-4965. www.lorareynolds.com.*

NORTHERN-SOUTHERN: WINDOWS 14

Here's a terrific new "show of things to look at and look through," as interpreted by **Elana Adler, Jeana Baumgardner, Shawn Camp, Hannah Cole, Dan Forbes, Colin Frazer, Adreon Denson Henry**, and more. **Closing reception:** *Sat., Jan. 17, 5:30pm. 1800 Koenig. www.northern-southern.com.*

PRIZER GALLERY: ANIMATE AND INANIMATE The award-winning lighting designer **Stephen Pruitt** takes over the gallery's walls for the month of January, with a show of his photographic portraits – featuring live subjects and stone sculptures from Croatia and Paris. Exhibition: *Through Jan 23. 2023 E. Cesar Chavez.*

ONGOING

AUSTIN ART POP-UP GALLERY An exhibition of work by 10 artists chosen by architect **Troy Campa**, who curated a selected tour during this year's EAST? Hell, yes, we want to see this – especially because that master of concrete **Paul Oglesby** is among the creators ... and because the space is "popping up" near Cuvee Coffee. *Sat., Jan. 17, 11am-5pm. 2000 E. Sixth.*

BUTRIDGE GALLERY: WPA'S MULTIPLE ORIGINALS See review, p.37. Exhibition: *through Feb. 11.* Reception: *Wed., Jan. 21, 6-8pm. 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 512/974-4000. www.womenprintmakers.com.*

FLATBED PRESS: NEW EDITIONS AND MONOTYPES Colorful multiplate etchings, giant woodcuts, and monotypes by **Ricky Armendariz, Alice Leora Briggs, Ann Conner, Suzi Davidoff, Annalise Gratovich, John Greer, Jules Buck Jones, Sharon Kopriya**, and more. *Through Feb. 10. 2830 E. MLK, 512/477-9328. www.flatbedpress.com.*

GRAYDUCK GALLERY: AFTER SOME REFLECTION New work in a diversity of media – by **Jenny Granberry, Jaelah Kuehmichel, and Joe Sinness** – dissecting social undercurrents, personal identities, and cultural language. *Through Feb. 8. 2213 E. Cesar Chavez, 512/826-5334. www.grayduckgallery.com.*

SVT GALLERY: RAY DONLEY Ten enormous and downright eerie photographs by the celebrated master of painterly **chiaroscuro** fill the Salvage Vanguard lobby walls. (Note: Buy one and all proceeds go to the theatre. The exhibition's viewable during weekend performances – SVT's zombie'd *Three Zisters*, for instance – or by appointment.) *Through Feb. 14. 2803 Manor Rd., 512/474-7886. www.salvagevanguard.org.*

WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: IMPRESSIONS OF THE ANNANDALE Austin painter **Gordon Fowler**, long respected for his impressionist landscapes of Texas and Mexico, has documented in skillfully wielded oils this **Texas Century Ranch** (operated continuously by the same family for more than 100 years) in the Frio River Valley. *Through Jan. 31. 1202 W. Sixth, 512/472-7428. www.wallyworkmangallery.com.*

LITERA

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

AUSTIN BOOK, PAPER & PHOTO SHOW More than 60 exhibitors featuring rare, antiquarian, first edition and illustrated books, Texana, history, children's books, photographs, postcards, and more. *Jan. 16-17. Fri., 6-9pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. Northcross Mall, 2525 W. Anderson, 512/499-8828. \$8 (includes \$5 coupon toward purchase). www.texasbooksellers.org.*

THE LION & THE PIRATE UNPLUGGED This here's "an inclusive open mic for writers, performers, and acoustic musicians of all ages and abilities," presented in conjunction with VSA Texas and the Pen2Paper project. *Sat., Jan. 17, 7pm. Malvern Bookstore, 613 W. 29th. www.malvernbooks.com.*

BOOKPEOPLE: MARY HELEN SPECHT The author presents her debut novel, the locally set *Migratory Animals*. See p.28 for more. Recommended. *Tue., Jan. 20, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 512/472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

"MULTIPLE ORIGINALS XIX"
Buttridge Gallery,
1110 Barton Springs Rd.
www.womenprintmakers.com
Through Feb. 11

The Women Printmakers of Austin have filled the Buttridge Gallery of the Dougherty Arts Center with their 19th annual showcase, presenting via members' work a diversity of print-making techniques. You want to get an eyeful of examples of those words you've always seen in print-technique articles but were never really sure how they might manifest in the real world of fiber and pigment – chine colle, intaglio, polymer gravure, and more – here's a fine opportunity for just that.

But this iteration of "Multiple Originals," like those of previous years, is also more than just a technical primer. There's a fine array of beauty and personal expression going on in this show, several pieces that halt a viewer and demand deeper appreciation of their colors and lines and balance, of the potential narrative implications therein.

Jo Lagattuta's *Round and Around and Around We Go*, a combination of monotype, stencil, and rubber stamping, is a spiral form fit to counter those vile and terror-inspiring spirals from (you'll recall) the first season of *True Detective*, a spiral that secularly celebrates the family of humanity and its circling place in the greater scheme of existence. With stencils and stamps, no less: Lagattuta wields the tools associated with a hobbyist realm of mediocre scrapbooking and with them renders an image that's transcendent and unique.

Jauneth Skinner's *Beguilement of Aries* is an illustration of exactly that mythologi-



***Lambing Lagoon* by Linda Genet**

cal occurrence, printed from a painstakingly detailed linocut, white lines against the black ink, a realized vision that wouldn't look out of place, that wouldn't wilt by comparison, in a book of erotica featuring art by Aubrey Beardsley, say, or Virgil Finlay.

Linda Genet contributes a piece called *Lambing Lagoon*, and it's a compelling, heavily patterned eye-catcher of sheep, evoked in stark black and white (and a small white-lined rose in red), created through clayboard engraving and etched copper.

These are among the more striking instances of graphic power in this newest WPA show, but all of what's on display here is worth your aesthetic while and likely to spark an inky fire of creation in your own engines of art.

– Wayne Alan Brenner

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Recycled Reads, the Austin Public Library's used bookstore is hosting a rare, vintage, art and ephemera sale. Texana, cookbooks, children's books, classics, maps, framed art and miscellaneous collectibles will be for sale.

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 All proceeds benefit the Austin Public Library.

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COMMUNITY

MLK ORATORY COMPETITION Finalists from local elementary schools share their five-minute speeches honoring Dr. King. After awards have been handed out to the winners, local high schoolers will be recognized for academic excellence and exceptional leadership. *Thu., Jan. 15, 6pm. Boyd Vance Theatre at the Carver Museum, 1165 Angellina, 512/974-4926. Free. www.mlkcelebration.com.*

WOMEN'S WORKSHOP WITH MARIPOSA PATHWAY An evening of creativity and inspiration, as women gather to focus and envision goals for the coming year. *Thu., Jan. 15, 6:30pm. Women's Community Center of Central Texas, 1704 San Antonio St. \$10. www.mariposapathway.org.*

STAR OF TEXAS TATTOO ART REVIVAL This is the 13th year for the annual celebration of the skin arts. Watch the professionals tint skin live and in person. The burlesque, belly dancing, sideshow acts, and automotive art will help your forget about your aching epidermis. *Fri.-Sun., Jan. 16-18. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd. \$15/day, \$40/weekend (\$20 at the door). www.golivefast.com.*

HOME & GARDEN SHOW Whether you're looking to remodel your house or merely gape at the work of professionals, this gathering of experts and vendors has the goods. Apart from the usual products and giveaways, there will be a tiny-house display and a remodeling consultation booth. Jen and Brandon Hatmaker of HGTV's *My Big Family Renovation* supply the star power. While you're there, you can also adopt an animal to help make that house a home. *Fri.-Sun., Jan. 16-18. Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, 512/404-4000. \$8.50 (kids free). www.austinhomelandgardenshow.com.*

BEEKEEPING SEMINAR This all-day seminar is devoted to sustainable bee husbandry for all skill levels. Proceeds from the event will go to the Texas A&M Honey Bee Lab. *Sat., Jan. 17, 8am-5pm. Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, 4801 La Crosse, 512/232-0100. \$40. www.aabaseminar.eventbrite.com.*

CITY WIDE GARAGE SALE It's like a hundred garage sales in one. Maybe not quite as cheap. *Sat.-Sun., Jan. 17-18. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd. \$6. www.cwgs.com.*

MLK YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS Scholarships will be given to Austin youths for outstanding achievements, ranging from community service to athletics. *Sat., Jan. 17, 3pm. Austin Community College Eastview Campus, 3401 Webberville Rd., 512/223-5100. Free. www.mlkcelebration.com.*

ACA LECTURE SERIES: FIRE ANTS Clare Wuellner speaks about the biology and control of those pesky pests. *Sun., Jan. 18, 12:15pm. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 512/974-7480. Free. www.atheist-community.org.*

MLK COMMUNITY MARCH & FESTIVAL The march fittingly begins at the Martin Luther King Jr. statue on the UT campus (21st & Speedway, 9am) and ends at Huston-Tillotson University (no stop at the

Capitol this year). All are invited to take part in the procession and donations to the Capital Area Food Bank are encouraged. At the march's end, the celebration continues with an outdoor concert, vendors, and more. *Mon., Jan. 19, 9am-3pm. Huston-Tillotson University, 900 Chicon, 512/505-3139. Free. www.mlkcelebration.com.*

FOOD FOR THOUGHT LECTURE Lynda Pyne, Ph.D. will present the topic "Meet the Neanderthals." *Mon., Jan. 19, 7-8:30pm. Trinity United Methodist Church, 4001 Speedway, 512/459-5835. \$3. www.cfi-austin.org.*

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY MEETING Experts guide you through the four seasons of wildlife gardening. *Tue., Jan. 20, 7pm. Tarrytown United Methodist Church, 2601 Exposition, 512/472-3111. Free. www.npsot.org/austin.*

ASTRONOMY ON TAP This monthly meetup features accessible, engaging science presentations on topics ranging from planets to black holes to the beginning of the Universe. *Tue., Jan. 20, 7:30pm. Scholz Garten, 1607 San Jacinto, 512/751-5650. Free. www.fb.com/events/443286532491868.*

AMF MUSIC PANEL The Austin Music Foundation kicks off 2015 with this panel about setting goals for your band in the new year. Ruby Dee Phillippa (Ruby Dee & the Snakehandlers) and Alex Vallejo (Vallejo) will speak. RSVP through website. *Wed., Jan. 21, 7-9pm. Strange Brew Lounge Side, 5326 Manchaca Rd., 512/542-0077. Free. www.austinmusicfoundation.org.*

OUT OF TOWN

QUILT SHOW There will be more quilts than you can shake a stick at, plus raffles and contests for best in show. *Fri.-Sat., Jan. 16-17, 10am-4pm. Kingsland Convention Community Center, 13800 Hwy. 1431, Kingsland, 325/388-3321. \$5. www.kingslandcommunitycenter.org.*

FORT WORTH STOCK SHOW AND RODEO The world's oldest continuously operated livestock show is much more than just cattle and cotton candy as the fair showcases all things Texan. *Jan. 16-Feb. 7. Will Rogers Memorial Center, Fort Worth, 817/392-7469. www.fwssr.com.*

EDDIE WILSON'S ARMADILLO WORLD HEADQUARTERS AND THREADGILL'S COLLECTION AUCTION There will never be another collection of rare, museum-quality concert posters and Austin music memorabilia like this for sale as the proprietor of the famed Austin restaurant raises funds for a new Threadgill's outpost in New Zealand. *Fri.-Sat., Jan. 16-17. Burley Auction Gallery, 134 Deborah Dr., New Braunfels, 830/237-3440. www.burleyauction.com.*

ANTIQUE TRACTOR SHOW AND PULL Watch the big engines do what they do best in a lively competition to see whose can pull the most. *Fri.-Sat., Jan. 16-17. Wilbur Baber Memorial Complex, Hallettsville, 361/772-6671. \$10. www.txtractorpull.com.*



The Harlem Globetrotters

Expect the usual audience participation along with all the high-flying dunks and zany hijinks you've come to expect from the Globetrotters.

Thu.-Fri., Jan. 22-23, 7pm. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, 512/640-4158. \$17-120. www.uterwincenter.com.

HILL COUNTRY GEM AND MINERAL SHOW Get ready to rock out as lapidary dealers show their polished wares, put on demonstrations, and try to identify your mystery rocks. *Sat.-Sun., Jan. 17-18. Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park, Fredericksburg. Free. www.fredericksburgrockhounds.org.*

VICTORIA COMIC CON You won't want to miss the fun as fans, celebrities, vendors, and artists come together for a weekend of comics, cards, toys, and games. *Sat.-Sun., Jan. 17-18. Community Center, Victoria. www.victoriacomicon.org.*

FAMILY LIBRARY CHILI COOK-OFF Join the fun tasting the different kinds of chili with music by the Black Cat Choir while helping to raise funds for the smallest accredited library in Texas. *Sat., Jan. 17. Town Square, Round Top, 979/249-2700. www.ilovetoread.org.*

PIANIST DOUG MONTGOMERY IN CONCERT Versatile pianist Doug Montgomery performs on the intimate stage at the United Methodist Church. *Sun., Jan. 18, 3pm. Fredericksburg Music Club, Fredericksburg, 830/990-2886. Free, donations accepted. www.fredericksburgmusicclub.com.*

KIDS

ROBOT ZOO Kids can watch master robotics experts at work and then try their hands at making robot arms and solar powered machines. *Sat., Jan. 17, 10am-noon. Austin Nature & Science Center, 301 Nature Center Dr., 512/327-8180. Free. www.naturerocksAustin.org.*

THE MUSICAL ADVENTURES OF FLAT STANLEY Stanley makes use of his unique shape to mail himself around the world meeting interesting

characters along the way. Join him, won't you? *Sun., Jan. 18, 2pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 512/472-5470. \$20. www.austintheatre.org.*

MONET & ME ART CLASS Get your child interested in art with this six-week course that covers art history, painting, sculpture, and more. *Tuesdays & Thursdays, through Feb. 26, 2-5pm. St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 6317 W. Bee Caves Rd., 601/942-0303. \$150. www.monetandme.com.*

SPORTS

THE MAIN EVENT

AUSTIN SPURS Vs. Texas Legends. *Thu., Jan. 22, 7:30pm. Cedar Park Center, 2100 Avenue of the Stars, Cedar Park, 512/600-5000. \$5-50. www.nba.com/dleague/austin.*

TATTOOED GLOVES CHARITY BOXING Tattoo artists put down the needle and lace up their boxing gloves in this fundraiser for the True South Relief Foundation. Oliver Peck from Spike TV's *Ink Master* will serve as master of ceremonies at this Star of Texas Tattoo Art Revival afterparty. *Sat., Jan. 17, 9pm. Midway Field House, 2015 E. Riverside, 214/559-0122. \$25. www.golivefast.com.*

ANARCHY CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING Celebrate Peace, Love, and Anarchy as scantily clad men and women toss each other all around the ring. It's like any other show at Mohawk except these performers don't warn you when they want to crowd surf. *Sun., Jan. 18, 6pm. Mohawk, 912 Red River, 512/482-8404. \$12 (\$15 front row or balcony percy). www.anarchychampionshipwrestling.com.*

THE HOME TEAMS

CHARLIE STRONG RADIO SHOW Wings, football, and beer! Join Charlie Strong every Thursday night for the Charlie Strong Radio Show. *Thursdays. Pluckers Wing Bar, 2222 Rio Grande, 512/469-9464.*

UT MEN'S BASKETBALL Vs. West Virginia. *Sat., Jan. 17, 5:15pm. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, 512/471-7744. \$6-25. www.texasports.com.*

UT WOMEN'S BASKETBALL Vs. Texas Tech. *Sat., Jan. 17, noon. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, 512/471-7744. \$4-12. www.texasports.com.*

CONCORDIA BASKETBALL *Thu., Jan. 15, Vs. East Texas Baptist: women's, 5:30pm; men's, 7:30pm. Concordia Fieldhouse, 11400 Concordia University Dr. \$5. www.athletics.concordia.edu.*

ST. EDWARD'S BASKETBALL *Thu., Jan. 22, Vs. Oklahoma Panhandle State: women at 5:30pm, men at 7:30pm. Recreation and Convocation Center, 3001 S. Congress. \$5. www.athletics.stedwards.edu.*

RECREATION & FITNESS

GROWN FOLKS STEP, ROLL N' BOWL! The MYEC hosts this adult skate/bowl party with music from guest DJs. BYOB (no coolers). *Third Saturdays, 9pm. Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex, 1156 Hargrave, 512/472-6932. \$5. www.myec.net.*

DAY TRIPS BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

Quinta Mazatlan, in McAllen, is an island of green in a sea of shopping malls, highways, homes, and fields. On a map of the Rio Grande Valley from Brownsville to Mission, barely 4% of the land remains unmolested.

The Tamaulipan Thornforest was one of the most diverse ecosystems in the world. Part desert scrub and part riparian forest, the natural cover harbored hundreds of species of animals and plants. Then came the railroad, followed by highways to turn the area into an economic garden.

In 1935, Jason and Marcia Matthews arrived at the tropical paradise just in time to save a small portion of the original landscape. Jason spent seven years building the house at Quinta Mazatlan with his own hands. He was followed by two more families who added to the house, but kept the grounds in its native state.

The city purchased the 17-acre plot in 1998. Since 2006, the adobe mansion's gardens have

become an outdoor classroom for area schools, a museum, and a world-class birding site. The inexpensive tours are worth the money, if for no other reason than the fun of walking the grounds with the resident ornithologist.

Quinta Mazatlan, which roughly translates as "villa in the land of the deer," is at 600 Sunset Dr. near the McAllen airport. For a nominal fee, the house and grounds are open to the public Tuesday through Saturday, 8am to 5pm. For information, call 956/681-3370 or go to www.quintamazatlan.com.

1,225th in a series. Collect them all. *Day Trips, Vol. 2*, a book of "Day Trips," is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: Day Trips, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.



SOCCER WATCH BY NICK BARBARO

Former **Austin Aztex** forward **Khiry Shelton**, Pac-12 player of the year at Oregon State, is projected as a top 10 pick in Thursday's **MLS SuperDraft**. Word has it two other former Aztex could be picked as well, which would give the team an astounding count of 11 players selected in the past three drafts... The Aztex confirmed this week that they've "entered a cooperation agreement with **Brazilian club Coritiba**" – which confusingly, to me at least, is in the city of **Curitiba** (see map)... This Friday is the deadline for the Aztex **Early Bird season ticket prices**; www.austinztex.com for more info. Tickets are also on sale for the inaugural **ATX Pro Challenge**, a four-team MLS preseason tournament that will be hosted by the Aztex, Feb. 13-15 at UT's Mike Myers Stadium. Tickets are on sale at www.texasports.com, and range from \$20 for Friday's semifinal doubleheader, to \$110 for VIP sideline seating for the full, four-game weekend.



Woo hoo! Say *olé* to our new soccer sister city.

The **USA U-20 national team** faces elimination in **World Cup qualifying** in Jamaica, with a tie and a loss in their first two group games. They're playing **Aruba** as we go to press Wednesday, then end with **Jamaica** on Sunday, and **Trinidad** Wednesday, almost certainly needing to win all three to avoid getting knocked out early. The tournament is live on FOX Sports 2 and Univision Deportes.

WWE SmackDown

by Richard Whittaker

The road to **WrestleMania**, the WWE's biggest event, begins at the Royal Rumble pay-per-view, and Tuesday night sees the last show before that 30-man melee. The stakes are high, so don't rule out a rare sighting of professional wrestling's ultimate unholy terror: the only man to ever hold the WWE world title, the UFC Heavyweight belt, and the NCAA Division I championship, **Brock Lesnar**. Expect a scream of "Yes! Yes!" for the return of sharp-fanged underdog **Daniel Bryan**, and a reunion of sorts of the hounds of justice, **the Shield**. The company's golden boy **Roman Reigns** reunites with the rip-roaring maniac **Dean Ambrose** against their former ally, the high-flying, belly-crawling treacherous snake **Seth Rollins** and the eerie, devastating charisma of **Bray Wyatt** (part *True Detective*, part human wrecking ball). Plus, with the fight on to be the next No. 1 contender, don't rule out power-players like **Cesaro** making an impact.



WWE SmackDown, Tue., Jan. 20, 7:30pm.
\$15-100. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River.
512/471-7744. www.uterwincenter.com.
Visit austinchronicle.com for our interview with Cesaro.

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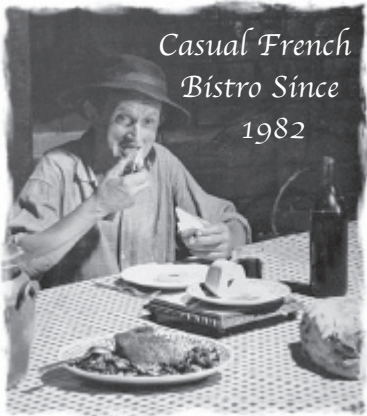
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FOOD

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PLEDGING ALLEGIANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF SANDWICH

Sometimes smaller is better. I find this to often be the case with restaurants. Large, cavernous spaces are difficult to fill, and frequently have a frosty ambience. By contrast, it doesn't take much to make small restaurant spaces seem comfortably crowded. So I'd say it was a good decision when newbie Austinites Pete O'Donnell and Thomas Gardner decided to take over the lease on the snug 750-square-foot space at the corner of Hancock and North Loop for their first independent foray into the restaurant biz.

Republic of Sandwich may be tiny, but believe me, the kitchen is producing marvels of sandwichery and other fare.

Republic taps into Austin's growing demand for everyday provisions that are at once artisanal and casual. O'Donnell and Gardner have parlayed their considerable fine-dining experience into a homier neighborhood deli concept. The result is something not quite new to Austin — think Noble Sandwich Co. and Melvin's Deli Comfort — but nonetheless thoroughly embraceable. There are no water-injected, shrink-wrapped deli meats served here.

Instead, just about everything from meats and mayo to dressings and sides are made in a diminutive kitchen that makes a food trailer canteen look roomy.

O'Donnell and Gardner roast their own turkey to make one of the brawniest club sandwiches (\$9) around, with plenty of thick slabs of bacon, roasted onions, and herbed mayonnaise.

Their pastrami is brined and smoked in-house and paired with mushrooms to produce a spectacular Rueben sandwich (\$9). Then there are the pulled pork sandwiches (try the one served with

rapini, peppers, and provolone, [\$9]) served on crusty rolls flown in from Amoroso's in Philly, which are sloppy in the extreme, but so tasty you just don't care that you have juice dribbling down your chin. Do yourself a favor and order a side of the roasted "kimchi" Brussels sprouts (\$2). These are sweet and lusty, savory and spicy all at once.

REPUBLIC OF SANDWICH
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www.republicofsandwich.com



JOHN ANDERSON

In keeping with their grab-and-go deli concept, Republic of Sandwich's breakfast menu is dominated by the ubiquitous taco (\$3). O'Donnell and Gardner tried serving omelets but found that the demand was generally for more portable fare. Fortunately, the bagels with house-cured gravlax (\$8) and potato latkes (\$4) have stayed, and they alone are well worth the trip.

True, the tiny kitchen limits the possibilities for what O'Donnell and Gardner can do with their cuisine, but the partners strive to keep the menu fresh with specials that change every few days. Empire builders take note: This little republic is one to watch. — Rachel Feit

THE MARTIN LUTHER KING holiday is approaching next week, so **Peace Through Pie** founder **Luanne Stovall** reached out to remind us about the pie socials that will be celebrated over the coming week. Stovall is the artist who felt "called by the pie" to develop a grassroots culinary tradition for the MLK holiday. The movement began in 2009 at Austin's Sweet Home Baptist Church (1725 W. 11th) in the historic Clarksville neighborhood, where a group gathered to enjoy pie, share family pie stories, and be uplifted by gospel music and Rev. Steve Manning's stirring reading of Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech. From that humble beginning, the annual pie social tradition has grown to include other local churches as well as public schools in Austin, Pflugerville, Leander, Del Valle, Hutto, Manor, and Round Rock, in addition to churches and schools in other parts of the country. In her press release, Stovall says, "In our increasingly tur-

bulent world, we have a great opportunity to come together in an intentional way to celebrate diversity as a strength and to cultivate trust. We can see the world as the pie that nourishes us and there is room for everyone at the table." For a complete listing of upcoming local events, go to www.peacethroughpie.org.

FOOD-O-FILE
 BY
VIRGINIA B. WOOD

PERRY RAY of **Ms. P's Electric Cock** is busy trying to grow her popular fried chicken trailer business into a brick-and-mortar outlet and is hoping to get a boost from an appearance on CNBC's show *Restaurant Startup* starring Ft. Worth chef **Tim Love** and New York restaurateur **Joe Bastianich**. The concept

of the show is that would-be restaurateurs pitch their projects, and Love and Bastianich decide whether or not to invest. Ray was the only Texas participant in the second season of the program and flew to Los Angeles to film her segment. While she waits to hear when her

segment will air, she's staying busy with one trailer in the **Picnic Food Court** (1720 Barton Springs Rd.) and another working special events. "I took the second trailer off Craigslist and eBay and decided to use it for catering and events such as South Bites coming up during South by Southwest," Ray told us last week. We'll keep you posted about when Ms. P will make her TV debut.

GRAB YOUR PASTRY BAG. The **That Takes the Cake Sugar Art Show and Cake Competition** hosted by the **Capital Confectioners** at the Round Rock Sports Center is coming up Feb. 21-22. While there's no rush to buy tickets, there is an impressive lineup of cake decorating and sugar art classes taught by a roster of highly regarded industry professionals before, during, and after the show, and it is important to register for those as soon as possible. The class offering 12 students the opportunity to work on a large scale, themed cake installation with two instructors before the show looks particularly worthwhile for cake professionals. For registration information about all the classes, go to www.thattakesthecake.org.

ONLINE // FIRST LOOK: THE PEACHED TORTILLA | FESTIVAL SEASON | AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/FOOD

MEAL TIMES

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Sun., Jan. 18, noon-6pm.
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507 Calles #101, 512/537-9756. \$25.



LENOIR AND JESTER KING BEER DINNER El Cedro, Colour 5, Detritivore, Figlet, and Snörkel meet their culinary match. Thu., Jan. 15, 7:30pm. Lenoir, 1807 S. First, 512/215-9778. \$95.

ROLL OUT THE BARRELS Explore eight wineries. Jan. 16-18. Top of the Hill Country Wine Trail. \$30 single, \$45 double. www.topofhillcountry.com.

FOURTH ANNUAL BEEKEEPING SEMINAR Bee there or bee square. Sat., Jan. 17, 9am-5pm. Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, 4801 La Crosse, 512/232-0100. \$40.

POP-UP BAKESHOP Pastries plus a sneak peek at I Knead That's Valentine's menu. Sat., Jan. 17, 10am. Métier Cook's Supply, 1805 S. First, 512/276-2605.

SUPPER FRIENDS: HILL COUNTRY DINNER Sat., Jan. 17, 7-10:30pm. Swoop House, 3012 Gonzales, 512/467-6600. \$76.95.

GULF COAST DUCK HUNTING/COOKING SCHOOL Hunt with the Coastal Wings Guide Service Hunt and Dai Due. Call or email for more details. Jan. 18-20. Bay City, 409/771-1451. \$1,995. ckbrokerage@aol.com.

2015 SOMMS UNDER FIRE FINALS Three advanced sommeliers battle to show who has the most Gamay game. Sun., Jan. 18, 6pm. AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center, 1900 University Avenue, 512/404-1900. \$60-125. www.keepercollection.com/somms-under-fire.

NATIONAL POPCORN DAY Chef Erica Beneke one-ups Orville Redenbacher. Mon., Jan. 19. Max's Wine Dive, 207 San Jacinto, 512/904-0111.

HOTEL SAN JOSE'S BAVARIAN NIGHTS Pretend you are at a Swiss Alps chalet with warm cocktails, polka, pretzels, and big German beers. Tuesdays through Jan. 27, 5pm-12mid. Hotel San Jose, 1316 S. Congress, 512/852-2360.

PORCHETTA CLASS Butchery and cooking with the ELM groups Andrew Curren. Wed., Jan. 21, 6:30pm. Wheatsville Food Co-op, 4001 S. Lamar. \$90.

KARBACH BEER DINNER Five beers, four food courses. Our kind of pairing. Thu., Jan. 22, 6pm. Flying Saucer, The Triangle, 46th & Guadalupe, 512/454-8200. austingm@beerknurd.com, www.beerknurd.com/stores/austin.

TRIO GAME DINNER Featuring game from Broken Arrow Ranch. Thu., Jan. 22, 6:30pm. TRIO at the Four Seasons, 98 San Jacinto, 512/685-8300. \$95. www.triorestantaustin.com/menus/Game_Dinner_Menu.

SUPPER FRIENDS: NEW AMERICAN CUISINE Jan. 22 & 23, 7-10pm. Swoop House, 3012 Gonzales, 512/467-6600. \$70.54.

BLIND TIGER AERIAL SOIRÉE Aerial bar-tending and a Twenties theme. Thu., Jan. 22, 7:30-10:30pm. Brazos Hall, 204 E. Fourth, 512/380-1675. \$50-75.

GO TO [AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/CALENDAR/FOOD](http://austinchronicle.com/calendar/food) FOR MORE EVENTS AND INFO

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Nely Rodriguez (r) with fellow members of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers

duct, but they also must allow the CIW to hold “worker-to-worker education sessions ... on the farms and on company time to insure workers understand their new rights and responsibilities.” A claim of no workplace complaints means more when employees actually know how to file them.

Nely Rodriguez, a member of the CIW who came to the U.S. 16 years ago after working in the fields in Mexico, said through a translator that the “work is really important. The rights and changes we’re seeing today weren’t our experience in Mexico or here [in Immokalee].”

When I heard that Whole Foods and Wal-Mart would be selling Fair Food tomatoes, I was eager to try them myself. But, I failed to take into consideration the fact that, here in Texas, it’s cheaper and more environmentally responsible for stores to stock tomatoes grown in-state or in Mexico whenever possible. Whole Foods and Wal-Mart agreed to purchase their Florida tomatoes from FFP growers, but the program doesn’t affect their suppliers outside of the state.

That doesn’t mean that Austinites are stuck with produce of uncertain provenance, though. We’re lucky to live in a place that has an abundance of small farms, many of which are open to the public. Some, such as Green Gate Farms and Johnson’s Backyard Garden, use volunteers to supplement their paid labor. As a longtime, intermittent volunteer at Johnson’s, I’ve been able to participate in many parts of the farm’s day-to-day operations, including planting seeds, caring for young plants in the greenhouse, digging up carrots in the fields, and sorting and packing produce in the warehouse. Having seen things for myself, I feel like I can trust the quality of Johnson’s produce. Natali Rodriguez, a member of the Student/Farmworker Alliance, which collaborates with the CIW, says that the Fair Food campaign has always encouraged consumers to engage with their local farms, and to consider growing some of their own food as well.

Buying food only from trusted local farms, of course, limits the number of ingredients available to what can be grown in Austin. For those who want more options, Whole Foods has instituted Whole Trade, a certification program for suppliers from “developing nations.” While Whole Trade is a creation of Whole Foods, and not farmworkers, it does have certain aspects that recommend it. Most importantly, Whole Trade growers are certified by four independent parties – Fair Trade USA, the Rainforest Alliance, the Institute for Marketecology, and Fairtrade International. In order to get a Whole Trade sticker, a supplier must meet requirements for “occupational health and safety, legal minimum wage, full rights and benefits, and never any forced labor, discrimination, or child labor.”

Finally, the CIW’s work is not done. The *Times* series, along with the 2014 documentary *Food Chains*, have brought greater awareness to the lack of standards on many

farms. Nely hopes that the film will allow the CIW to reach more people and get more corporations on board. Although four of the five largest fast food corporations are Fair Food participants, Wendy’s continues to hold out. “The best way to support the CIW is to support their campaigns,”

says Natali. Last November, members of the CIW and the SFA visited Austin to discuss their Boot the Braids campaign, which asks universities to end their contracts with Wendy’s until it joins the FFP. The most recent company to join the program is North Carolina-based grocery chain Fresh Market. Unlike Whole Foods and Wal-Mart, Fresh Market has pledged to increase the percentage of Florida tomatoes purchased, setting a precedent that other buyers will hopefully follow. ■

To learn more about the CIW’s current campaigns, please visit www.allianceforfairfood.org.

Waiting on Fair Food

The quandary of ethical eating

BY AMY KAMP

One of the great tactile pleasures in life is food. Few things are more enjoyable than cooking and eating a meal made of carefully selected ingredients. But it’s hard to savor food that’s the product of forced labor and exploitation.

Late last year, the *Los Angeles Times* published a devastating series of articles about working conditions for laborers on Mexican farms. Among other things, the *Times* found that “[m]any farm laborers are essentially trapped for months at a time in rat-infested camps, often without beds and sometimes without functioning toilets or a reliable water supply,” and “[m]ajor U.S. companies have done little to enforce social responsibility guidelines that call for basic worker protections such as clean housing and fair pay practices.” Many of the laborers interviewed had begun working in the fields as children. Given that a good deal of the produce sold in Austin is imported from Mexico, the likelihood that some of it is tainted by human suffering is high.

And, unfortunately, it’s not only foreign growers that are guilty of bad labor practices. In 1993, the Coalition of Immokalee Workers was formed with the goal of fighting the widespread abuses in the Florida tomato industry. At the time, the tomato fields were one of the worst places for workers, and sexual assault and human trafficking were not uncommon. Slowly, the CIW, made up of the very people who were being mistreated, made progress. While they began by appealing to the growers who employed them, they came to realize that growers often have little bargaining power themselves: They’re at the mercy of the fast food

and grocery chains that dominate the produce market.

By refocusing their efforts on individual major buyers, the CIW has been able to bring about real change. In 2001, they launched their first campaign targeting Taco Bell. The CIW called on consumers to boycott the brand and universities to kick the restaurant off their campuses until the chain agreed to only buy tomatoes from growers that complied with certain labor standards. Although it took years, Taco Bell eventually acceded.

Since then, many corporations have followed Taco Bell’s lead, often after being the subjects of similar campaigns. Twelve other buyers, including not only most major fast food companies, but also Wal-Mart and Whole Foods, have become part of the CIW’s Fair Food Program, which requires participants to pay about a penny more per pound of tomatoes, and only buy from growers deemed by an independent auditor to meet the FFP’s code of conduct. About 90% of Florida tomato growers have agreed to implement the program on their farms.

What sets the FFP apart from vague commitments to social responsibility is that the members of the CIW, farmworkers themselves, know what it takes to ensure accountability. For instance, not only are participating growers audited by the independent Fair Food Standards Council to monitor their compliance with the agreed-upon code of con-

“The rights and changes we’re seeing today weren’t our experience in Mexico or here.”
– Nely Rodriguez



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JOHN ANDERSON

Town and Country

MODERNISM MEETS MEMORY AT GARDNER

It's tempting to squeeze Andrew Wiseheart and Ben Edgerton's sibling restaurants into a Beatrix Potter narrative. Contigo is the country mouse – happy with the slow pace and hospitality of small town Texas (albeit a small town where Wagyu is in plentiful supply). Gardner is the city mouse – adept at pomp and politesse, quite taken with the pleasures of the new.

It's tempting, but that story isn't entirely accurate. Gardner's dining room is more elegant than Contigo's rancho deluxe and you'll find Keith Kreeger porcelain instead of waxed paper boats, but Gardner hasn't loaded up the truck and moved to Bev-er-lee. Despite the minimalist Scandinavian esthetic, the glistening stainless kitchen, and the gracefully curved flatware, Gardner still has a bit of the farm in it. It may be gussied up, but it still has an accent.

For one, the white server "uniform" has a sort of salt-scrubbed, Andrew Wyeth-meets-Children of the Corn naiveté. Then, there's the stoneware, all of it rough-hewn and none of it quite white. There's gnarled bits of wood here and there, but no other decoration. Were it not for the warmth of the staff, it would feel like a Primitive Baptist church. The narrow skylight certainly aspires to be a steeple.

There's lots of reaching upward. Gardner's seasonal menu isn't quite severe, but there's not a lot of whimsy. Technique is never used for novelty; processed ingredients never show up for high-low acrobatics. The front end, led by Roberto Ainslie, could probably recite the menu alphabetically if you asked them. Even the kitchen, visible from the dining room, has an ecclesiastical calm. Maybe they've been force fed St. John's wort, but more likely they are not getting the workout they deserve. There were barely a few customers on both visits, and one of the servers was careful to explain the concept. It's vegetable forward

not vegetarian, the "bites" are not appetizers per se, it's locally sourced but not quite farm-to-table. It's just thoughtful food. We're not sure where any confusion would lie.

Still, those who grumble have spent much time online, bemoaning the perceived value of those bites. Yes, they are true to their name, barely larger than an amuse-bouche. And yes, one can buy tacos at the same price point. One can also buy a Washington Redskins ticket, but neither will bring as much pleasure as Gardner's tiny baubles. The brussels sprout (\$3) and cauliflower (\$3) avoids brassica ennui with young garlic and raisins, respectively. The crudité (\$3), only thick enough to maintain some snap, matches lush mascarpone with black olive soil. Pearled with crème fraîche, the chicken skin (\$3) had the sweet/salty equilibrium of Japanese toast. Only the raw beef (\$4) failed to elicit unqualified raves. Rolled like a dolma, the dish could have used its touch of acid. Still, the weightless potato flakes had all the pleasure of the

last few crumbs in a bag.

The bites have to make their point quickly, but the "first" plates linger long enough for a full conversation. Initially, the cured cobia's (\$13) tarragon seems to be longing for its traditional lemony mate, but the dish develops throughout. Whey's zing makes an affable substitute, tempered somewhat with earthen turnip. Cabbage (\$11) likewise takes a couple of seconds to develop, using jalapeño in a way that almost feels French. The broccoli (\$8) and carrot (\$9) dishes are both fine, if perhaps more in the spirit of sides, but neither fully conveys what the kitchen is capable of. They saved that for the beets (\$9). That dish is a rejoinder to all the bland local roasts, served with a terrifically zippy urfa aioli and a pine nut brittle. The root is not grounded one bit.

Indeed, few Austin restaurants use roots

as effectively as Gardner. The monkfish (\$29), although perfectly cooked and luxuriating in squid ink, would have been gloomy without the artichoke punch of the salsify. Likewise, the dried aged beef (\$34), requested rare, would have been steakhouse standard without sweet potato (sprinkled with more fresh tarragon) and black garlic. The best "second" (Gardner for entrée) dish showcases the root alone. The celery root (\$25) is a gorgeous mandala, dusted with pink peppercorn and dotted with beads of black truffle. Underneath is a sort of risotto of Carolina Gold rice. Not a root, but just as good are the brassicas (\$18), with dandelion greens, toasted farro, and preserved lemon. The chili broth, poured tableside, is an olfactory delight.

Cutesiness can mar the desserts of some of Austin's finest kitchens, victims of the particularly local compulsion toward false nostalgia. Steven Cak's desserts evoke memory, but there's something more complicated going on than the mere borrowing of bygone forms. The Japanese pumpkin is an idea of winter, with subtle wintergreen and citrus bitter. The sweeter milk chocolate feels like a child's celebration – not because it lacks sophistication (sunchoke and anise are hardly Fisher Price), but because there's a sort of innocence in the chunks of cake. Both are enjoyable, but neither hold a candle to the apple, the most revelatory Austin dessert since Uchiko's Tobacco Cream. Much hullabaloo has been raised over the audaciousness of the dessert's use of hay, but it isn't a gimmick. With the hazelnut and dual apple (gelee and fresh), the dessert is a fantasy of rural Americana – hayrides, bonfires, barn dances.

If there's a minor quibble, it's in the wine list. It could have used a lighter red (Gamay does show up in a Rosé blend), for more versatile pairing with the wildly varying flavor profiles. The server's educated suggestions were perfectly fine, but a dedicated beverage director or sommelier (Paul Courtright has recently departed) might have suggested a better traveling partner. That repartee or not, it still was a lovely journey. – Brandon Watson



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Meet Me There Meets Horror Halfway

DUSTIN RUNNELS LEAPS FROM THE WRESTLING RING TO THE MOVIE SET **by Richard Whittaker**

In wrestling rings around the world, he's famous as the mysterious, malevolent, androgynous, and anarchistic WWE superstar Goldust. Beneath the makeup, he's Austin's own Dustin Runnels, and now he's making his first ventures into cinema. "I've had my day in the sunshine with wrestling," he says, "but I'm still young enough that I can walk away when I want and branch off into something a little less physical."

Preacher Woodward, Runnels' character in Lex Lybrand's locally produced horror film *Meet Me There*, is far removed from his in-ring antics as the Bizarre One: In the redneck-nightmare town of Sheol, Okla., Woodward is the quiet voice of sympathy for the road-tripping couple Ada and Calvin (local comedy stalwarts Lisa Friedrich and Michael Foulk). In some ways, it's close to his roots as a self-described "country boy," channeling simmering Southern Gothic sensibilities into the doom-foretelling holy man. Runnels says, "That's what makes him creepy, that he's more subtle and quiet and reserved."

The role relies on eerie intimacy, and while the WWE has him performing to the rafters in arenas and stadiums, it also made him a TV star. "For the last 20-odd years, there's been a camera in my face," Runnels says. It started with backstage vignettes and promos, but with the increase in social media, and the wrestling organization now running its own films division, the company brings acting coaches to TV tapings to work with the roster. Runnels has embraced every

opportunity they provide to hone his skills. "Without it," he remarks, "there's no telling what kind of performance I would have given."

Famous as Goldust has made Runnels, he grew up in the shadow of his father: wrestling legend Dusty Rhodes. Yet he was determined to be more than just a legacy. "You can't live in someone else's shoes; you've got to branch out and fill your own shoes." As for naysayers who doubt a professional wrestler can act, Runnels is used to changing minds. At every live event, he says, "There's always one person that does not believe in wrestling. They're there because of their children, and they're just miserable. I will work that person. The entire match, I go back to that person, just to see their responses. As the match progresses, and I'm showing him the happiness on my face or the anger or the pain, you start to make somebody a believer."

That's something Friedrich can associate with, from her time teaching improv with the New Movement Theater. "I teach very heavily to have real and grounded themes, not just the goofy things, because the idea is to illicit a response from the audience, not necessarily a laugh."

Due in part to his insanely demanding touring schedule, Runnels was only on set for a couple of days. Yet his quiet, thoughtful moments are among the most pivotal scenes, and

***Meet Me There* screens at the Alamo Drafthouse South Lamar, Jan. 21, 7pm, with cast and crew in attendance. The film will soon be available on DVD, Blu-ray, and VOD.**



Dustin Runnels on the set of *Meet Me There*

in stark contrast to the flurry of violence as he forcibly baptizes Ada. Foulk remembers, "Right beforehand, Lisa specifically told Dustin, 'Hey, I want you to scare me.'"

Bad idea, says Friedrich. "Never tell a wrestler to scare you."

This was the real change for Runnels. "I'm used to big guys and throwing them down and hitting them in the face and being very, very rough. But this little, timid girl's life in my hands ... it was just very eerie. Every time she'd come up, I would check to see if she was OK. She was a trouper."

Foulk even had his own grappling moment with Runnels, along with a quick reminder of whom he was dealing with. "It's a bucket-list thing to get thrown by a professional wrestler," he comments, "and it was shocking how easily he threw me. I'm about 220, and he tossed me like I was nothing." ■

LOCAL VIDEO GAME RELEASES

by James Renovitch

DISORDER

Swagabyte Games

www.disordergame.com

"Violence is a complicated issue. Now go shoot everything between you and that goal." It's such a popular video-game trope that the dissonance barely registers anymore. Few games take the time to align what it tells you with what you actually do. The team at Swagabyte Games took this lesson to heart when they created *Disorder*, a 2-D platforming game that explores grief and mental illness. It's a disparate dichotomy. Can a style of play popularized by those lovable scamps Mario and Luigi offer insight into schizophrenia and emotional trauma? *Disorder* proves it can, as players run and jump their way to a kind of resolution. The controls are simple: left, right, jump, duck, and ... uh, swap worlds. Every level has a twin with slight variations in environment and player interaction. A simple tap offers access to that twin realm allowing entry to previously inaccessible areas. *Disorder* offers little hand-holding, which works well with the intuitive challenges and forgiving difficulty curve. By the end, alternating between sides of the dark mindscape becomes a reflex, and both the story and the interaction tell the same, difficult story.



I'M NULL

www.mooosh.tv

It may be a "walking simulator," but *I'm Null* is one strange stroll. This free browser game from local game-maker Zak Ayles and sound designer Robin Arnott drops players in a world that consists of darkness, stark landscape features,

and sculptures that look like three-dimensional line drawings. Headphones are recommended as you explore the colorless realm because distant sounds often lead to the next interaction with a pyramid, graveyard, or even other players. The vast quiet and dark spaces weigh equally on the mind as players stumble their way around in search of the next encounter.

MONKEY FORTUNETELL

www.fortunetell.alienmelon.com

If having your fortune told just doesn't feel legit unless a digital, dancing monkey is assisting, then *Monkey Fortunetell* is for you. Local digital artist Rachel Weil (aka Party Time! Hexcellent!) helped create this self-described "glitzy glitching mystic divination." It's equal parts interactive art and prognosticator, assuming you trust life decisions to primates.

VERTICAL GOLF

oeFun

www.oeFun.com

Vertical Golf turns the iOS sensation *Desert Golfing* on its ear. Actually, on its side. Instead of the infinite side-scrolling of the original, VG puts the tee in a deep chasm and the hole high above. It doesn't have the lonely elegance of *DG's* soul-crushing landscape, but it's hard to say no to a fun and free challenge to while away a few hours.

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Big Bear Hug for Paddington

Children's classic bears fruit (marmalade) onscreen

BY MARC SAVLOV

Bears and marmalade have gone together like Pooh and honey even since 1958, the year that UK author Michael Bond and illustrator Peggy Fortnum published their children's book *A Bear Called Paddington*. Featuring the misadventures of a young bear from "darkest Peru" who finds himself living in London through no fault of his own, the *Paddington* books are a specimen of that rarest of VYA (Very Young Adult) touchstones, the children's classic. *Paddington* fans of all ages, and I include myself among their ranks, awaited the arrival of *Paddington* on the big screen with no little online worrying. Would the filmmakers deliver a CGI calamity with the potential to terrify children into thinking they'd just experienced some joy-

sapping, too-realistic *Grizzly Man: The Bear?* (Worse has happened: See *The Polar Express* for details.)

It's with great satisfaction that I can report that *Paddington* is a marvelously charming and near-perfect blend of Bond's comically



PADDINGTON

D: Paul King; with Hugh Bonneville, Sally Hawkins, Nicole Kidman, Ben Whishaw, Jim Broadbent, Julie Walters, Michael Gambon, Imelda Staunton, Peter Capaldi, Samuel Joslin, Madeleine Harris. (PG, 95 min.)

★★★★

ursine character and some seriously fine technical wizardry. *Paddington* is the young person's movie to beat in 2015. It's contemporary in tone but steadfastly true to its source material, and – good news, mom

and dad! – it's hugely entertaining, with a less-than-subtle nod to current sociopolitical views on everything from immigration policy and xenophobia to what, exactly, it means to be family.

Co-screenwriters Paul King and Hamish McColl front-load the story with a veritable cornucopia of droll puns and wild comedic antics that almost always function as a witty, vital part of the narrative, instead of stopping things dead-bang. (Stateside, King is probably best known for directing the culty comedy series *The Mighty Boosh*, and it shows.) Voiced very well indeed by Ben Whishaw, Paddington is forced from his natural habitat in the Peruvian rainforest in the wake of an earthquake. In a nod to both Bond's books and the reality of London's children displaced by the German Blitz during World War II, Paddington's Aunt Lucy (Staunton) hangs a tag around his neck with the inscription: "Please look after this bear." Once he's in modern London, however, the presumed hospitality of the wee bear's new locale is in doubt until the wee bear is taken in by the Brown family. With the help of Bonneville's hover-parent dad, Hawkins' idealistic mom, and the Brown children (*The Impossible's* Samuel Joslin chief among them), Paddington searches for "the English explorer" whom he met years before, while also being stalked by Kidman's taxidermist villainess.

Director King and his art department have cannily created a magical, new storybook home for Paddington. If you drool over Wes Anderson's intricate, emotionally resonant set designs, you're likely going to love what the Browns' home looks like. There are so many terrific things going on in the film – rapid-fire wordplay, split-second visual gags, and some veddy, veddy British punning – that, frankly, *Paddington* deserves more than one viewing. Huzzah *Paddington*, and marmalade forever!

ALAMO LAKELINE, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, CM SOUTHPARK MEADOWS, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER, HIGHLAND, GATEWAY, LAKELINE, MOVIEHOUSE, TINSELTOWN NORTH, TINSELTOWN SOUTH, WESTGATE

FILM LISTINGS

NEW REVIEWS

★ AMERICAN SNIPER

D: Clint Eastwood; with Bradley Cooper, Sienna Miller, Luke Grimes, Jake McDorman, Kevin Lacz, Cory Hardrict, Navid Negahban, Keir O'Donnell. (R, 132 min.)

Clint Eastwood's second film of 2014 (*Jersey Boys* was released in June) is also his best film since at least 2008's *Gran Torino*. With it, the filmmaker revisits his long preoccupation with guns and their capabilities, although the recoil of *American Sniper* doesn't have the same moral reverberation of Eastwood's finest work. Still, the action sequences are packed with zealous clarity and tense dynamism.

Based on the memoir by Chris Kyle (written with Scott McEwen and Jim DeFelice) – who, during the course of four tours in Iraq as a Navy SEAL, became the most prolific sniper in

the annals of U.S. military history – the film exists in a black-and-white world in which only good and evil abide. In *American Sniper*, no Muslim punks are given even a split second to consider whether they're feeling lucky that day; they are felled precisely and instantly by a distant marksman. Kyle's Manichean values are instilled by the time he is kindergarten-age by a father who teaches him to be a proficient hunter, and lectures him about the ways of the world: People are either sheep or wolves, although there exist a few souls "blessed with the gift of aggression" who are the sheepdogs protecting the flock from the wolves. That's Chris Kyle: a sheepdog with a Colt.

After spending the last several years firmly establishing his comedic acting chops (*The*

CONTINUED ON P.49

OPENINGS

American Sniper (R)

Blackhat (R)

I (NR)

Paddington (PG)

Spare Parts (PG-13)

The Wedding Ringer (R)

RATINGS

★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be

★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless

★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points

★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots

★ Poor, without any saving graces

La bomba

★ Recommended



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Jay (l) and Mark Duplass



Greetings From Eagle Rock

Jay and Mark Duplass cultivate *Togetherness*

BY MARC SAVLOV

There are only so many hours in a day you can set aside to watch television, that resurgent usurper of your precious time. If you're like us, your weekends have already been canceled or are experiencing technical difficulties – please stand by – thanks to binge-a-thon viewings of *The Americans*, *Fargo*, *Transparent*, and oh, God, you did see the full run of *True Detective*, right? Of course you did. We *all* did. And we're *all* positively quaking in anticipation of HBO's ne plus ultra of the small screen, *Game of Thrones* Season Five, which kicks off in April. So little time, so much excellence to watch.

And now you're about to be utterly hooked on the new HBO series *Togetherness*. Created by the formerly Austin- and now Los Angeles-based filmmaking sibs Jay and Mark Duplass (*The Puffy Chair*; *Baghead*; *Jeff*; *Who Lives at Home*), the show revolves around the emotional minutiae of thirtysomething life and marriage in the Eagle Rock neighborhood of L.A.

Togetherness manages the not inconsiderable feat of being both brutally honest and sublimely hilarious in its dissection of the pitfalls of approaching middle-age in a culture too often defined by hipster youth. The Duplass brothers direct all the episodes, which they wrote with their frequent collaborator Steve Zissis, who also co-stars in the show with Mark. The series – there are eight half-hour episodes in Season One – features Mark Duplass and Melanie Lynskey as the increasingly unsatisfied couple Brett and Michelle Pierson, with Zissis and Amanda Peet as their equally emotionally-at-odds friends Alex and Tina. And it's perfect. No spoiler alert necessary, and no hyperbole, either: The final episode of the first season generates more heart-in-the-throat suspense than any theatrical movie or television series we've seen in the last year.

The *Austin Chronicle* spoke to Jay Duplass from his home in Eagle Rock about the brothers' long-form television debut, the Austin filmmaking community's imprimatur, and the narrative gulf between movies and television series.

Austin Chronicle: I have to ask if Mark and Melanie's characters' surname, "Pierson," is a shout-out to indie film and SXSW super-couple John and Janet Pierson. Is it?

Jay Duplass: It's funny that you ask that because Janet sent us an email immediately when the synopsis came out and was like, "Guys, what the fuck is going on?" But no, it's not a reference at all, we just liked the name. We do love John and Janet to death, but it wasn't anything that we came up with consciously."

AC: So how did you and Mark hook up with HBO? Had you been hankering to try your hand at a television series for a while, or did this just sort of happen organically?

JD: After we made *The Puffy Chair*, HBO was one of the first people to continuously call us back in and talk to us about ideas. We've always had a relationship with them, but *Togetherness* in particular was really no different from any of our other ideas that we've come up with. It was birthed out of the private conversations that Mark and I had with each other about the weird, embarrassing, and desperate things that we and our friends were doing. Usually we cringe about it and then start giggling uncontrollably.

AC: You're both married with children now, right?

JD: Yeah, we both were in our 30s with two young children and we were just laughing and being mortified at the same time. For us at that time, [people] were like, "There's these two Austin kids who are becoming these titans in Hollywood" while every night we were getting our asses handed to us by 12-pound infants who were, like, threatening the very fabric of our sense of well-being. We were just getting brought to our knees by our kids and attempting to find that balance between being a good family person while keeping our own dreams alive. We felt like we were an inch away from drowning at all times.

And then when we started talking to all of our friends about it, *they* all felt the same exact way. There was this other cohort of people who were *not* married, or maybe didn't have any traction with their careers yet, and we were secretly jealous of them and they were secretly jealous of us. They were desperate as shit, too, and terrified of their own life situation.

All of the scenarios that kept flooding in as [Mark] and I were talking about [*Togetherness*] were just scene after scene of tragically funny stuff. We were like, "This is so much bigger than a movie!" So we brought it to HBO, they loved it, and they supported us the whole way.

AC: Going from the early days of the so-called mumblecore movement to Hollywood features via Cyrus and Jeff, Who Lives at Home, and then to HBO seems like a monumental shift for you guys. Was that difficult at all?

JD: Having a broader narrative arc is a huge part of it. We've always been weirdly obsessed with the subtlest forms of narrative plotting and also the very realistic ways that the plot twists of our *real* lives happen. We've been trying to communicate that and convey that in narrative feature form, but I

think there's something about long-form television that's really [attractive] to us.

First of all, it's an open universe. What I mean by that is things continue on and on. You still have to open plots and close plots, but in terms of the emotional evolution of a character? You don't have to close that stuff up, and you're actually rewarded by continuing to complicate that and make it *more* elusive and then run with it just the way that human beings do. So in a weird way, just because we are sort of vérité filmmakers, the [television] form is more naturally suited to what we're trying to do.

Also, you get to know these characters over time. I'm sure you picked up on it. By episodes six, seven, and eight, we're doing tiny things that are having a huge impact because you know the characters so well. You know what that turn of phrase means when the person says it, and it's just devastating. We don't have to do that fake thing where they have a big, drag-out fight down by the river with gorgeous lighting. The artifice of having to close emotional storylines at the end of a feature film is a natural function of the craft and the form of making a feature film, but it's an ugly word, "artifice." There isn't nearly as much as that in this type of television.

AC: Were you and Mark big TV aficionados growing up in New Orleans?

JD: We were raised on *Cheers*. All of the Diane episodes of *Cheers* we've probably seen four or five times. Apiece. It was on at our dinner time at 6:30pm and we'd sit down and eat dinner and watch *Cheers* at the same time every night. It was very, very magical. [HBO's] *Six Feet Under* was the really massive breakthrough for us in terms

of serialized, long-form storytelling where we realized that this thing was moving in a line, over the course of years, like some sort of gigantic movie.

AC: You've got a whole bunch of Austinites working on the show, correct?

JD: Right. Our director of photography on *Togetherness* is Jimmy Shelton, who shot David Zellner's *Plastic Utopia* when they were 22 years old. Our editor [Jay Deuby] is from Austin and I've been working with him since we were 24 years old. A lot of our department heads have come up just as our friends and we've sort of grandfathered them into the unions because they didn't rise up through the unions. They were our buddies who we just wanted to continue to work with.

AC: So the Duplass Brothers definitely haven't "gone Hollywood"?

JD: You know, everyone asks us if we're getting influenced by Hollywood and the truth is, if anything, Mark and I fight the *other* way to maintain our brotherly, telepathic connection. And that also includes all the Austin ethics of working with your friends and your family, doing things DIY, and creating things by hand, basically. That's really important to us because it creates a tactile feeling of the way of making the movies that we came up with in Austin: Make it fast, cheap, and then let the world take care of it. ■

FILM LISTINGS CONTINUED FROM P.47
Hangover, *Silver Linings Playbook*, *American Hustle*), Bradley Cooper is a dramatic revelation as Kyle. Bulkied up and muscular, the actor functions here with an economy of physical artifice and language. The downside of this is that viewers receive little insight into what Kyle is experiencing emotionally. However, it's probably also true that a sniper must maintain a certain psychological numbness in order to perform the job as perfectly as Kyle does. He's not a one-dimensional character: We witness his macho jocular-ity with his military brothers, the aimless direction of his life before joining the SEALs, and his love for his wife Taya (Miller, in a thankless role) and children. Despite Taya's entreaties, however, he re-enlists three times because his sense of duty to his comrades overrides his family responsibilities. His mantra is "God, Country, Family" – in that order.

While Eastwood's touch is most clearly evident in the film's combat sequences in Iraq, the screenplay by Jason Hall seems to favor Kyle's difficult reentry into civilian life. The cocksure confidence and the good-and-evil dichotomies that served him so well while in country are liabilities back home where there's a lot more shading between good and evil. Kyle's taciturn countenance adds to the film's amorphousness during this section. Back in Texas, Kyle finds no sense of purpose, and his tragic, ultimate fate is left to an onscreen sentence at the end of the film. The outlandish episodes that followed Kyle's stateside return (the widely publicized Jesse Ventura incident, among other curious incidents) are completely absent from the film, and the book's jingoism and cultural prejudices are played down. To its credit, the film shows no interest in creating blind heroics but instead uphold the nickname Kyle earned in Iraq: the Legend.

★★★ – *Marjorie Baumgarten*
ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE, ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR, ALAMO VILLAGE, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, CM SOUTHPARK MEADOWS, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER, FLIX BREWHOUSE, HIGHLAND, GATEWAY, IPIC, LAKELINE, MOVIEHOUSE, TINSELTOWN NORTH, TINSELTOWN SOUTH, WESTGATE

BLACKHAT

D: Michael Mann; with Chris Hemsworth, Viola Davis, Tang Wei, Wang Leehom, William Mapother, Ritchie Coster, Holt McCallany, John Ortiz, Yorick van Wageningen. (R, 133 min.)
Director Michael Mann has proven to be the oddest stylist of his generation, starting with the stunning *Thief*, achieving velocity with *Heat*, and then following those by searching for a certain kind of pastel monotone. He made a number of films that were far better than they had to be (*Ali* and *The Last of the Mohicans*), but not as great as they seemed at first promise. It's as though Mann backs down from the challenge or sees it set at very limited goals. *Blackhat* plays a surprisingly flat and ever-flatter cinema texture against the careful roll-out of an elaborate plot. Not only is the pacing deliberate, but Mann often supplies only about 80% of the information needed to understand what is going on in a scene. This is never a problem; the film's narrative strategy is so generic that what is going on is obvious. It does make the viewer aware that most films go all the way with this kind of information, explaining the action when they don't really need to go so far.

A nuclear power plant in China is caused to malfunction and the price of soybean futures are manipulated. Obviously, there is some corrupt computer genius at work, planning to do great evil. Only thing is, the most eloquently crafted part of this rogue program was created by a jailed computer hacker in America. The film is international in scope and ambition: A Chinese police official tackles the case (Wang), bringing along his sysadmin sister (Tang) and getting his jailed ex-college roommate (Hemsworth) released to help him. There is something appealing about the walking-under-water pacing of this film that's anchored by a number of fine action set-pieces. But, as usual, Mann is uninterested in character, and while enamored of setting up as complicated a plot as possible, the film-maker seems to have lost interest by the end.

There is such a richness and cinematic ambition to Mann's best work that it's a shame it is often undercut by what seems a real contempt for his audience. You can't help but think that he feels as though he tosses out enough narrative and style ideas that he has no obligation to create believable relationships or offer satisfying resolutions.
★★ – *Louis Black*
ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO VILLAGE, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, CM SOUTHPARK MEADOWS, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER, FLIX BREWHOUSE, HIGHLAND, GATEWAY, IPIC, LAKELINE, MOVIEHOUSE, TINSELTOWN NORTH, TINSELTOWN SOUTH, WESTGATE

|
D: S. Shankar; with "Chiyaan" Vikram, Amy Jackson, Suresh Gopi. (NR, 188 min., subtitled)
Not reviewed at press time. In Tamil and Telugu, this film tells the story of a deformed hunchback, who was once a male model but now seeks revenge on the person he holds responsible for his plight.
– *Marjorie Baumgarten*
TINSELTOWN NORTH, TINSELTOWN SOUTH

SPARE PARTS

D: Sean McNamara; with George Lopez, Marisa Tomei, Carlos PenaVega, David del Rio, José Julián, J.R. Villarreal, Jamie Lee Curtis, Esai Morales. (PG-13, 113 min.)
The David-vs.-Goliath face-off in the earnest *Spare Parts* treads familiar territory, ground that often teeters on the painfully cliched. Rocky Balboa, Billy Elliot, the Titans – who doesn't like to root for the underdog, even when the odds-stacking seems ridiculously melodramatic? Here, the little guy and the big guy don't square off in a boxing ring, or during a talent contest, or on a football field. Rather, a national underwater robotics competition provides the unlikely milieu for the show-down in this little movie that could. Based on an article published in *Wired Magazine*, it recounts the uphill climb of four undocumented high school students in Phoenix, Ariz., who cobble together a contraption made of Weed Eater motors, PVC pipe, masking tape, and tampons at a cost less than \$800 to compete against high-tech machinery engineered with almost 20 times the price tag by highly educated students from MIT, Stanford, and other prestigious (and well-funded) universities. Admittedly, both the movie and the boys' makeshift robot are unsophisticated creatures, but they get the job done. To its credit, the windmill-tilting in *Spare Parts* takes a low-key approach, although a little dramatic momentum might have enlivened the film's home

stretch a bit. But even if you aren't already acquainted with the remarkable accomplishments of the Carl Hayden Community High School quartet, you nevertheless know how this story will end, improbably or not. Deep down, would you have it any other way?
As the students' mentor and stand-in father figure, Lopez (who also serves as one of the film's producers) gives *Spare Parts* its rough-hewn optimism, even though he's not much of an actor. (His cadence rarely varies, so most of his line readings sound pretty much the same.) The young men portraying the four competitors make the best of their two-dimensional roles, with PenaVega's aspiring Captain America getting most of the screen time, most likely due to his handsome visage and chiseled upper torso. Why else would this clean-cut Latin Marky Mark unexpectedly peel off his shirt in a blissfully gratuitous scene calculated to show off an admirable physique?

Spare Parts may lack refinement in many respects, but it's not a naive movie. At heart, it's a subtle plea for immigration reform, underscoring the potential contributions that unauthorized residents in this country can provide to American society regardless of their status as noncitizens. Call it humanism, call it advocacy, call it old-fashioned entertainment – there's little difference in the end. Whatever you call it, *Spare Parts* stands and delivers on its own intriguing merits.
★★★ – *Steve Davis*
BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM SOUTHPARK MEADOWS, HIGHLAND, GATEWAY, TINSELTOWN NORTH, TINSELTOWN SOUTH

TAKEN 3

D: Olivier Megaton; with Liam Neeson, Maggie Grace, Forest Whitaker, Famke Janssen, Dougray Scott, Sam Spruell, Andrew Howard, Leland Orser, Jon Gries, David Warshofsky, Jonny Weston. (PG-13, 109 min.)
Six Januarys ago, Liam Neeson made the unlikely leap from respected thespian to bankable ass-kicker by starring in *Taken*, a propulsively brutish and surprisingly successful dose of dadsplotation produced by the reliably pulpy likes of Luc Besson (*The Professional*, *Lucy*). The formula has only seen diminishing returns of late, both with

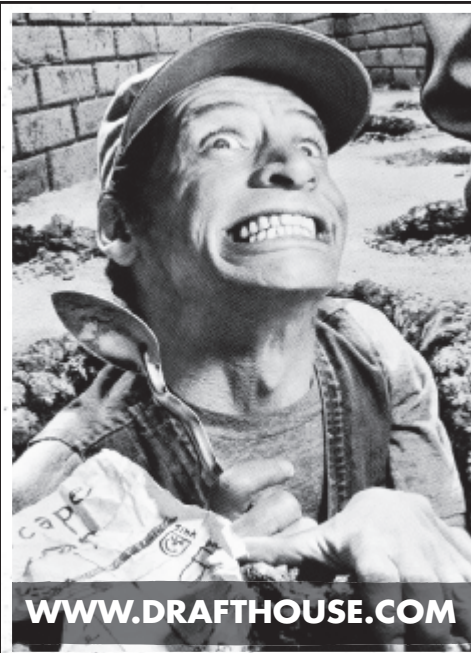
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The Woman in Black 2: Angel of Death (PG-13) Fri. Sat. & Mon. - Thu. 12:00 2:20 4:35 7:05 9:30
Sun. 12:00 2:20 4:35 7:05
Blackhat (R) Fri. & Sat. 1:00 4:00 7:10 10:00 11:59
Sun. - Thu. 1:00 4:00 7:10 10:00
American Sniper (R) Fri. & Sat. 12:30 1:15 3:45 4:10 6:55 7:10 9:40 10:00 11:50
Sun. - Thu. 12:30 1:15 3:45 4:10 6:55 7:10 9:40 10:00
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies (PG-13) Fri. - Thu. 12:15 3:30
Selma (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 1:00 4:00 7:20 10:05 11:45
Sun. - Thu. 1:00 4:00 7:20 10:05
The Wedding Ringer (R) Fri. & Sat. 12:20 2:35 4:50 7:15 7:30 9:30 9:50 11:50
Sun. - Thu. 12:20 2:35 4:50 7:15 7:30 9:30 9:50
Paddington (PG) Fri. - Thu. 12:05 2:15 4:25 6:50 9:10
The Woman in Black 2: Angel of Death (PG-13) Sun. 9:30
Spare Parts (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 1:30 4:20 7:05 9:35 11:59
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Neeson (*Taken 2*) and without (Kevin Costner in *3 Days to Kill*, Pierce Brosnan in *The November Man*).

Just as Charles Bronson reluctantly saddled up for increasingly belabored *Death Wish* sequels well into his 70s, *Taken 3* wheezes by with an inescapable sense of fatigue as Neeson enters his 60s. Having been framed for the murder of his ex-wife (Janssen), retired CIA operative Bryan Mills demonstrates a very familiar set of skills as his good name is taken for a change. The lack of a central abduction may have been a conscious effort by Besson and co-writer Robert Mark Kamen to break from routine, but this substituted plot invites easy comparison to the still-crackerjack thrills of 1993's *The Fugitive*, with Forest Whitaker's dogged detective Dotzler standing in for Tommy Lee Jones as Neeson scampers across Los Angeles in pursuit of his tormentors.

Worse yet is the return of *Taken 2* helmer Olivier Megaton, whose proven incompetence with orchestrating coherent set-pieces (*Colombiana*, *Transporter 3*) is only further compounded by the need to cut around an aging star. Whether it's an impossibly bloodless penthouse shootout or a highway chase culminating in a drive down an elevator shaft (you read that right), these frenetic action beats are all aftermath and afterthought. There isn't even a moment amid the running and gunning as insipidly inspired as the last film's idea of using grenade-tossing triangulation to save the day.

Furthermore, *Taken 3* doesn't demonstrate the good sense to keep its brainless antics pared down to 90 minutes, tacking on an extra reel's worth of wheel-spinning as Bryan's daughter, Kim (Grace), needlessly hides her pregnancy from dear old dad while Dotzler helps himself to crime-scene bagels (again, you read that right) as part of his inevitable journey toward accepting Mills' innocence. All the while, Neeson retains his God-given gravitas and trademark ferocity; he's as comfortable bantering with a giant stuffed panda as he is interrogating Russian thugs. As *The Grey* confirmed, his own particular set of skills merits this recent career renaissance; truth be told, he and we both deserve a better showcase for them than this cacophonous assembly of something resembling excitement.

★ ★ – William Goss
ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, CM SOUTHPARK MEADOWS, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER, FLIX BREWHOUSE, HIGHLAND, GATEWAY, IPIC, LAKELINE, METROPOLITAN, MOVIEHOUSE, TINSELTOWN NORTH, WESTGATE

THE WEDDING RINGER

D: Jeremy Garelick; with Kevin Hart, Josh Gad, Kaley Cuoco-Sweeting, Alan Ritchson, Olivia Thirlby, Josh Peck. (R, 101 min.)
Not reviewed at press time. Kevin Hart plays a character who runs a best-man-for-hire service for socially challenged grooms. Josh Gad plays the hapless groom in this comedy, who is about to marry the woman of his dreams (Cuoco-Sweeting).

– Marjorie Baumgarten
ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, CM SOUTHPARK MEADOWS, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER, FLIX BREWHOUSE, HIGHLAND, GATEWAY, IPIC, LAKELINE, METROPOLITAN, MOVIEHOUSE, TINSELTOWN NORTH, WESTGATE

Phenomena and Labyrinth Double Feature

AFS: Dressed Down With Amy Gentry. Inspired by Gentry's "The Good Eye" column from this very newspaper (see p.34), this twofer of Jennifer Connelly films explores both the dark and the light. Gentry will lead a discussion afterward on those themes as well as the deeper underpinnings of the films. @ Marchesa Hall & Theatre, Friday, 7:30pm; Sunday, noon.



Phenomena

FIRST RUNS

***Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com. Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.**

ANNIE

D: Will Gluck; with Quvenzhané Wallis, Jamie Foxx, Rose Byrne, Bobby Cannavale, Cameron Diaz, Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje, Stephanie Kurtzuba. (PG, 118 min.)

Yes, this *Annie* is different – it's of this time. Director Will Gluck has updated the Depression-era-set playbook of the 1977 musical to contemporary New York. Played by the profoundly cute Quvenzhané Wallis (an Oscar nominee for *Beasts of the Southern Wild*), Little Orphan Annie is now a foster kid in the home of drunken has-been Ms. Hannigan (Diaz). The Daddy Warbucks character has molted to reveal mayoral candidate Will Stacks (Foxx), who hopes to get a boost in the polls by taking in Annie for a spell – but Annie, that lovable imp, casts a spell of her own. Corny, but sometimes genuinely funny, Gluck's remake isn't the train wreck that the trailers portended. Little girls will love it. While I didn't care much for the Top 40 gloss slathered over every song, this heart will never harden to a spunky kid who's certain the sun'll come out tomorrow. (12/19/2014)

★ ★ ★ – Kimberley Jones
ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER, GATEWAY, METROPOLITAN, TINSELTOWN NORTH

THE BABADOOK

D: Jennifer Kent; with Essie Davis, Noah Wiseman, Hayley McElhinney, Daniel Henshall, Barbara West, Ben Winspear. (NR, 93 min.)

"If it's in a word, or it's in a look, you can't get rid of the Babadook," reads weary Amelia (Davis) to her young, frightened son Samuel (Wiseman). Australian writer/director Jennifer Kent makes a stunningly assured feature filmmaking debut with this unnerving thriller, which escalates when *Mister Babadook*, an ominous children's pop-up book which has mysteriously appeared in Sam's bedroom, warns against an evil creature who knocks three times ("Baba dook-dook-dook") and cannot be gotten rid of once he's allowed into one's home. Despite tearing up the book and leaving it in the trash, Amelia finds it again in her son's room, pasted together and more threatening than before. Clearly, they're being stalked – but by a storybook character? As Amelia grows more exasperated and sleep-deprived by the day, a true sense of menace manifests itself amid the household banality. Screw Heisenberg: It is the Babadook who knocks. (12/05/2014)

★ ★ ★ ★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR

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★ BIG EYES

D: Tim Burton; with Amy Adams, Christoph Waltz, Krysten Ritter, Danny Huston, Jason Schwartzman, Terence Stamp, Jon Polito. (PG-13, 105 min.)

Before memes, there were fads, and in the early Sixties one of the most popular was the ubiquitous work of the artist "Keane." The paintings, invariably featuring tatty waifs with grotesquely oversized eyes, were a near-immediate hit, and Walter Keane soon became a very wealthy individual. Except he never painted a single "big eye" in his life: Those brushstrokes belonged solely to his wife, Margaret, a fact Walter never acknowledged until she forced his hand in court. Fertile ground for Tim Burton, then, who casts Christoph Waltz (*IngLOURIOUS BASTERDS*) as the maniacally charming schemer Walter and Amy Adams as the long-suffering Margaret. Although supersaturated with Sixties detail, the core of the story here is the brutal portrait of a marriage in freefall. Still, there's precious little of the director's trademarked, hallucinatory vibe, and *Big Eyes* ultimately feels like Burton Lite – which isn't to say it's not an eccentrically entertaining ride. (12/26/2014)

★ ★ ★ – Marc Savlov
ARBOR, METROPOLITAN

★ BIG HERO 6

D: Don Hall, Chris Williams; with the voices of Ryan Potter, Scott Adsit, Daniel Henney, James Cromwell, Alan Tudyk, T.J. Miller, Jamie Chung, Damon Wayans Jr., Genesis Rodriguez, Maya Rudolph. (PG, 108 min.)

Another friggin' superhero story that acknowledges comic-book tropes while rarely subverting them, *Big Hero 6* is powered nonetheless by its witty charms, lively animation, and swift pace. Disney's first foray into Marvel territory hits all the requisite beats while playing in a more family-friendly key. Teenage prodigy Hiro (voiced by Potter) prefers 'bot-fighting in the back alleys of San Fransokyo to hitting the books, but under the guidance of older brother Tadashi (Henney), he gives the local university's robotics program a shot. It isn't long before tragedy strikes, leaving Hiro nearly family-less, but remaining in the aftermath is his loyal, inflatable companion Baymax (Adsit). It isn't much of a spoiler to reveal that the title refers to a team consisting of these two and four other souped-up crime-stoppers. Much like the majority of Marvel's live-action fare, *Big Hero 6* colors brightly enough inside the lines to forgive the typical story trappings. (11/07/2014)

★ ★ ★ ★ – William Goss
ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, GATEWAY, TINSELTOWN SOUTH

★ BIRDMAN OR (THE UNEXPECTED VIRTUE OF IGNORANCE)

D: Alejandro González Iñárritu; with Michael Keaton, Edward Norton, Emma Stone, Amy Ryan, Naomi Watts, Andrea Riseborough, Zach Galifianakis, Lindsay Duncan. (R, 119 min.)

Where Alejandro González Iñárritu's previous films (*Babel*, *Biutiful*) were punishing, *Birdman* is more like a high-spirited pummeling, and the closest thing to a comedy he's made so far. Michael Keaton plays Riggan Thomas, who once ruled Hollywood as the star of a superhero franchise – he was the titular Birdman – but whose career has since crumbled. *Birdman* opens just days before Riggan debuts his stage adaptation of Raymond Carver's "What We Talk About When We Talk About Love" – and he's cracking from the stress. The play is in shambles, Riggan's Broadway big-shot co-star (Norton) is stealing his limelight, and Riggan may or may not be going nuts. *Birdman* moves at a relentless tempo, somewhere between nervous-leg agitation and hair-pulling hysteria. While its many lines of inquiry may not resolve neatly, Iñárritu's film is so soaring, sometimes literally, I hardly missed the feeling of hard ground underfoot. (10/24/2014)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ – Kimberley Jones
ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR, ARBOR, METROPOLITAN, VIOLET CROWN

★ BOYHOOD

D: Richard Linklater; with Ellar Coltrane, Patricia Arquette, Ethan Hawke, Lorelei Linklater. (R, 164 min.)

With his newest release *Boyhood*, Richard Linklater has created the ultimate coming-of-age film, a true masterwork that transcends the usual constructs of the genre and delves into the development of personhood as it is experienced – day by day, year in and year out. By the very nature of its approach – *Boyhood* was filmed a few days at a time over 12 years – the film allows us to witness time's effects on the boy of the title, Mason Jr. (Coltrane), as well as his family: mother Olivia (Arquette), father

Mason Sr. (Hawke), and older sister Samantha (Lorelei Linklater). From the get-go, we're placed on a course to observe a child's ongoing experience with making sense of the world he's inherited. *Boyhood's* originality clearly extends beyond the screen, and it's this film – even more so than *Slacker* or the *Before* trilogy – that will earn Linklater a place in the history books. (07/18/2014)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
ARBOR

EXODUS: GODS AND KINGS

D: Ridley Scott; with Christian Bale, Joel Edgerton, John Turturro, Ben Kingsley, Aaron Paul, Ben Mendelsohn, Maria Valverde, Sigourney Weaver, Ewen Bremner, Tara Fitzgerald. (PG-13, 150 min.)

Blood! Boils! Humongous, ship-devouring Nile crocodiles! Whoever thought overwrought biblical epics were dead deserves a face-full of locusts and will get one watching *Exodus: Gods and Kings*. Ridley Scott's grand and goofy take on Cecil B. DeMille's *The Ten Commandments* squeezes the Book of Exodus down to its most basic tenets, rendering it both a story of God-crossed pseudo-siblings and a thunderous series of generally awe-inspiring, CGI-assisted, action set-pieces. Scott offers a secular out for every instance of the miraculous. Thus, the burning bush and everything that follows can be attributed to Moses (Bale) getting conked on the head by a falling rock after he's cast out of Egypt by Pharaoh Ramses (Edgerton). Faith leaders may not be urging their congregations to the theatres, but let's face it: No one goes to unleavened popcorn movies like this for deep thoughts. They go for the huge-budget action, and Scott, unsurprisingly, delivers the goods. (12/19/2014)

★ ★ ★ – Marc Savlov
METROPOLITAN, TINSELTOWN NORTH

FOXCATCHER

D: Bennett Miller; with Channing Tatum, Steve Carell, Mark Ruffalo, Vanessa Redgrave, Sienna Miller, Anthony Michael Hall, Guy Boyd, Brett Rice. (R, 134 min.)

A palpable sense of doom hangs over the chilling *Foxcatcher*. As the film slowly inches toward its inevitably tragic ending, you can't help but think: Nothing good can come from this. Based on page-two headlines from nearly two decades ago, it recounts the uneasy relationship between beak-nosed billionaire and wrestling enthusiast John du Pont (Carell) and the Olympic gold medal-winning Schultz brothers (Tatum and Ruffalo) – which ends in cold-blooded murder in a driveway. There's a studied creepiness that informs *Foxcatcher*, one that suggests its deliberate pacing will contribute to a greater meaning beyond the tabloid fodder that advances the otherwise mundane narrative of a privileged rich man with delusions of grandeur. Director Miller's execution is beautifully evocative, but to what end? As much as you want to admire (even like) this film, it's ultimately an unsatisfying experience, largely because you have no idea what to make of it. (12/19/2014)

★ ★ ★ – Steve Davis
ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR, ARBOR, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, VIOLET CROWN

The Vanquishing of the Witch Baba Yaga

D: Jessica Oreck; with Mariusz A. Wolf, Tatyana Zbirovskaya. (2014, NR, 73 min.) **Experimental Response Cinema.** Intertwining fairy tales, personal memories, and political history, this film is an examination of mankind's place in nature. @Alamo Ritz, Sunday, 5:30pm.



Va Savoir

D: Jacques Rivette; with Claude Berri, Catherine Rouvel, Bruno Todeschini, Hélène de Fougerolles, Jacques Bonnaffé, Marianne Basler, Sergio Castellitto, Jeanne Balibar. (2001, PG-13, 154 min.) **AFS Essential Cinema: Jacques Rivette.** An actress and her boyfriend have hidden motives when they return to Paris as part of a theatre troupe in one of Rivette's most accessible and entertaining films. (*) @Marchesa Hall & Theatre, Thursday (1/22), 7:30pm.



THE GAMBLER

D: Rupert Wyatt; with Mark Wahlberg, John Goodman, Brie Larson, Michael Kenneth Williams, Jessica Lange, Alvin Ing, Emory Cohen, Anthony Kelley. (R, 111 min.)

Is there any sound more seductive than the soft, sensual susurrations of playing cards sleeking their way across a green felt field from dealer to bettor? Probably there is, but you wouldn't know it from *The Gambler*, Rupert Wyatt's fine remake of the eponymous 1974 film, which starred James Caan. This time out, the locale has jumped from grimy New York City to smog-sunny Los Angeles, but the game remains (mostly) the same: nerve-wracking, perverse, and sinfully exhilarating. Mark Wahlberg, playing against type in one of his juiciest roles ever, is Jim Bennett, a failed novelist and collegiate creative-writing professor by day and a compulsive gambler by night. He's no James Caan, but Wahlberg brings some real intensity to a wickedly written role; he's certainly able to infuse this mesmerizing character study with enough rancid brio to make this self-flagellating hustler believably doomstruck. To Bennett, life itself is a losing proposition. (12/26/2014)

★★★★

– Marc Savlov
METROPOLITAN

☼ GONE GIRL

D: David Fincher; with Ben Affleck, Rosamund Pike, Neil Patrick Harris, Tyler Perry, Carrie Coon, Kim Dickens, Patrick Fugit, David Clennon, Lola Kirke, Scoot McNairy. (R, 149 min.)

Dark and deadly, David Fincher's nightmarishly fine *Gone Girl* – adapted from Gillian Flynn's bestselling novel – unspools like an awful case of lucid dreaming gone haywire. Nothing is what it seems in this he said/she said thriller. Nick Dunne (Affleck) and his wife Amy (Pike) seem to be living the dream in New York City's upper-class, pseudo-bohemian substrata. Until, that is, Nick's mother falls ill, the stock market implodes, and the pair is forced to downscale to Nowheresville, Missouri. Then Nick returns home on their fifth anniversary to find Amy missing. Enter detective Boney (Dickens) and her sidekick cop Jim Gilpin (Fugit), who quickly establish that there's been a whole lot of crimson spilled in the kitchen, and suddenly Nick is Suspect No. 1. *Gone Girl* is pitch-black neo-noir, proving Fincher yet again to be a better cinematic psychologist of (in)human nature than almost any other director alive. (10/03/2014)

★★★★

– Marc Savlov
MOVIES 8, LAKE CREEK 7

GOPALA GOPALA

D: Kishore Kumar Pardasany; with Daggubati Venkatesh, Pawan Kalyan, Shriya Saran. (NR, 160 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. This Telugu satire is a remake of the 2012 Hindi film *OMG: Oh My God!* about an atheist who sues God. (01/09/2015)

– Marjorie Baumgarten
TINSELTOWN SOUTH

☼ THE HOBBIT: THE BATTLE OF THE FIVE ARMIES

D: Peter Jackson; with Martin Freeman, Ian McKellen, Richard Armitage, Ian Holm, Cate Blanchett, Orlando Bloom, Evangeline Lilly, Aidan Turner, Billy Connolly, Ryan Gage, Luke Evans, Lee Pace, Hugo Weaving, Christopher Lee, Manu Bennett. (PG-13, 144 min.)

Is it over yet? While Peter Jackson's take on J.R.R. Tolkien's prequel to the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy has occasionally been something of a trial to sit through, *The Battle of the Five Armies* finally gets almost everything right. Spoilers ahead: Picking up exactly where *The Desolation of Smaug* left off, the dragon is quickly dispatched, and the surviving humans regroup outside the Lonely Mountain, Erebor. Inside, Thorin Oakenshield (Armitage), overcome with greed, walls himself, his dwarf brethren, and our titular hobbit Bilbo Baggins (Freeman) inside the great hall. Meanwhile, Gandalf (McKellen) is freed from Sauron's grasp, and a vast army of orcs assemble for the final melee – which is a sight to behold and, indeed, everything a Tolkien nerd could ask for. All in all, an admirable capstone to one of the great mytho-cinematic achievements of all time, bringing both Bilbo and his audience full circle, home at last. (12/19/2014)

★★★★

– Marc Savlov
ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE, ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR, ALAMO VILLAGE, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, CM SOUTHPARK MEADOWS, HIGHLAND, GATEWAY, METROPOLITAN, MOVIEHOUSE, TINSELTOWN NORTH, WESTGATE

THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY - PART 1

D: Francis Lawrence; with Jennifer Lawrence, Liam Hemsworth, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Julianne Moore, Josh Hutcherson, Woody Harrelson, Sam Claflin, Donald Sutherland, Elizabeth Banks, Jeffrey Wright, Mahershala Ali, Natalie Dormer. (PG-13, 123 min.)

This first go at the final book in Suzanne Collins' bestselling young-adult trilogy uncaps a fat, neon high-lighter to underscore a defining idea of the series: that Katniss Everdeen (Lawrence) – an often galvanizing force for rebellion in the brutalized 12 districts that make up the nation of Panem – is a mere shuttlecock batted between sides in a war for hearts and minds. Taking place largely in a subterranean barricade below the supposedly bombed-out District 13 – where the citizenry have been covertly hatching revolutionary plans for 75 years – *Mockingjay* turns at once wandering and tunnel-visioned. The filmmakers were wise to hang *Part 1*'s climax on a tense military mission unseen in the book, but the film unwisely lumbers on afterward and the action deflates. Audiences have a long year to wait for *Part 2*. Would it not have been better to leave them breathless than heaving a sigh? (11/21/2014)

★★★

– Kimberley Jones
BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM CEDAR PARK, CM ROUND ROCK, CM SOUTHPARK MEADOWS, GATEWAY, TINSELTOWN NORTH, TINSELTOWN SOUTH

☼ THE IMITATION GAME

D: Morten Tyldum; with Benedict Cumberbatch, Keira Knightley, Matthew Goode, Rory Kinnear, Charles Dance, Mark Strong, Allen Leech, Alex Lawther, Jack Bannon. (PG-13, 114 min.)

Is *The Imitation Game* gay enough? That's not a flip-pant question; I fretted it both times I watched the movie. Its subject, Alan Turing (Cumberbatch), was a pioneering figure in computer science who led the group of cryptologists that cracked the Nazi Enigma code – a breakthrough which many believe won the war. He was also a closeted homosexual, and was prosecuted for it in 1952, when it was still illegal to be gay in Great Britain. Two years after being sentenced to chemical castration, Turing died from a cyanide-laced apple – presumed suicide. *The Imitation Game*, from director Morten Tyldum, doesn't pretend Turing wasn't gay; that fact is woven into the film's structure. The lingering feeling, however, is that the filmmakers may pay lip service to Turing's sexuality, but they prefer to keep his sex life theoretical (and strictly off-screen). Careful, there: No tracking dirt on the nice clean prestige picture. (12/26/2014)

★★★★

– Kimberley Jones
ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE, ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR, ARBOR, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, CM SOUTHPARK MEADOWS, IPIC, METROPOLITAN, MOVIEHOUSE, TINSELTOWN NORTH, VIOLET CROWN, WESTGATE

☼ INHERENT VICE

D: Paul Thomas Anderson; with Joaquin Phoenix, Katherine Waterston, Josh Brolin, Owen Wilson, Reese Witherspoon, Benicio Del Toro, Hong Chau, Joanna Newsom, Jena Malone, Martin Short. (R, 148 min.)

These tales, they usually start with a woman in trouble. Larry “Doc” Sportello (Phoenix) thought

Outlaw Blues

D: Richard T. Heffron; with Peter Fonda, Susan Saint James, John Crawford. (1977, PG, 100 min.) **AFS: Arthouse.** Shot in Austin, this tale of an ex-con who has his song stolen by a successful country star gets a rare screening with local filmmakers and experts in attendance for a post-film discussion. @Marchesa Hall & Theatre, Wednesday, 7:30pm.



he'd seen the last of his ex, Shasta Fey Hepworth (Waterston), but she's become mixed up with the wrong crowd and needs Doc's help. And how can he refuse? Doc might be a perpetually stoned hippie, but he's also a licensed P.I., and this is his wheelhouse. With that, we are dropped into Paul Thomas Anderson's adaptation of Thomas Pynchon's 2009 California noir novel, set in Los Angeles circa 1970. Doc doesn't so much delve into the mystery as get strung along by so many unseen puppeteers and eccentric ancillary characters, rarely gleaning insight along the way. Thankfully, Anderson nails Pynchon's seamless marriage of high-brow with lowbrow, blending noir, slapstick, and melancholy to create a bittersweet, sun-dappled reverie. My advice? Relinquish yourself to this hazy tapestry, and let the film take over. Squares need not apply. (01/09/2015)

★★★★

– Josh Kupecki
ALAMO RITZ, ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE, ARBOR, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, METROPOLITAN, TINSELTOWN NORTH

☼ INTERSTELLAR

D: Christopher Nolan; with Matthew McConaughey, Anne Hathaway, Jessica Chastain, Michael Caine, Mackenzie Foy, Casey Affleck, John Lithgow, Wes Bentley, David Gyasi. (PG-13, 169 min.)

Interstellar is riddled with ridiculisms. And yet: Nolan, a notoriously chilly filmmaker who's never shown much faculty with matters of the heart, is pinning that heart squarely on his sleeve. Boldly swinging for the rafters, he's uncharacteristically willing to embarrass himself here. There's a lot to admire in that. *Interstellar* is about humanity's last-ditch effort to find a habitable planet in another galaxy after it becomes clear that Earth is death-rattling. McConaughey plays single dad Cooper, who agrees to pilot the expedition, even though it means missing out on raising his children. So much of *Interstellar*, baggy and beautiful in ragged measures, comes qualified: Its science-y info-dumps sound so serious one suspects they're actually very silly; even the most predictable plot turn zings with Nolan's master hand at tension-building; and if the script is overly enamored with front-porch poeticisms and turgid monologues about love – oh, how the heart aches when a child cries for her father. (11/07/2014)

★★★★

– Kimberley Jones
GATEWAY, LAKELINE, METROPOLITAN

THE INTERVIEW

D: Evan Goldberg, Seth Rogen; with James Franco, Seth Rogen, Lizzy Caplan, Randall Park, Diana Bang, Timothy Simons, James Yi. (R, 112 min.)

Every once in a while, a movie is more than a movie, but it's surprising when that becomes the case with a punk-ass comedy, one that's more puerile than pointed yet not without some good laughs. A better-than-average bromance, *The Interview* is not intrinsically an empire-toppler. Broadly funny and well-acted, the film lands some well-placed jabs as fatuous talk show host Dave Skylark (Franco) and his longtime producer Aaron Rapaport (Rogen) arrive in Pyongyang, tasked with interviewing the reclusive Kim Jong-un (Park), while also on assignment from the CIA to assassinate him. The film soon loses its mooring, however, as it lurches into all-out, guns-ablazing action. It's incalculable how many people will watch this film as a way to stand up for freedom of speech – and there's a lot to be said for that – but *The Interview*, symbol though it's become, ain't nothing but a movie. (01/02/2015)

★★★★

– Marjorie Baumgarten
ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE

☼ INTO THE WOODS

D: Rob Marshall; with Anna Kendrick, James Corden, Emily Blunt, Meryl Streep, Lilla Crawford, Chris Pine, Tracey Ullman, Mackenzie Mauzy, Daniel Huttleston, Johnny Depp. (PG, 124 min.)

The ambitious Stephen Sondheim/James Lapine musical *Into the Woods* is a pastiche of classic fairy tales turned on their heads: In this world, princes aren't always charming, wishes sometimes bring trouble, and happily ever after is an elusive notion at best. The first two-thirds of the film adaptation of this musical moves briskly, its overlapping stories moving toward the crowd-pleasing happy endings you're expecting. But when the third act somberly rewrites those familiar finales, the fun evaporates, and many will feel a little cheated – which is precisely the intent – although director Marshall tries mightily to invigorate this tricky section of the film. The production values are top-notch, and most of the cast holds their own – particularly Crawford, Huttleston, and Tony-winner Corden; Pine and, more surprisingly, Streep are less bewitching – but the subversive nature of this bedtime story for grownups makes *Into the Woods* an uphill climb. (12/26/2014)

★★★★

– Steve Davis
ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE, ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR, ALAMO VILLAGE, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, CM SOUTHPARK MEADOWS, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER, FLIX BREWHOUSE, GATEWAY, IPIC, LAKELINE, METROPOLITAN, MOVIEHOUSE, TINSELTOWN NORTH, WESTGATE

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: SECRET OF THE TOMB

D: Shawn Levy; with Ben Stiller, Robin Williams, Owen Wilson, Rebel Wilson, Ben Kingsley, Ricky Gervais, Dick Van Dyke. (PG, 97 min.)

A number of critics seem to have been stunned to realize in the middle of this film that they were watching *Night at the Museum 3*, the series in which all the attractions in New York City's American Museum of Natural History come to life after dark. If you're not expecting a peak achievement in film comedy, this sequel will do you just right. Astonishingly well-crafted for something so aggressively dumb, the real surprise here is the cast: Stiller, overly serious and somewhat oblivious, is as focused as a guided missile, while Wilsons Owen and Rebel, Coogan, Van Dyke, Gervais, and Williams (fine, if perhaps tainted by a certain sadness, in one of his final performances) all have their moments. Nice effects work, a relatively swift-moving narrative, and a well-worn premise prove inspiring this time out. “I yam what I yam,” as Popeye said. Adding, “And that's all that I yam.” (12/19/2014)

★★★★

– Louis Black
BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, CM SOUTHPARK MEADOWS, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER, GATEWAY, LAKELINE, TINSELTOWN NORTH, TINSELTOWN SOUTH, WESTGATE

☼ NIGHTCRAWLER

D: Dan Gilroy; with Jake Gyllenhaal, Rene Russo, Riz Ahmed, Bill Paxton, Michael Hyatt. (R, 117 min.)

A petty thief unable to land a real job, Lou Bloom (Jake Gyllenhaal) is drawn like a moth to the very real flame of a car wreck on the L.A. interstate, where he observes a swarm of parasitic cameramen out to get the juicy footage. From that moment on, Lou is gifted with glorious purpose, set on finding himself a camera and a police scanner, then a news producer Nina (Russo) interested in buying his better clips, then an intern Rick (Ahmed). Lou doesn't seem to sleep, nor does he seem to care about anything or anyone, not if it means getting the best of angles on the worst of situations. A thoroughly gripping portrait of an utterly modern sociopath, *Nightcrawler* may not have anything new to say about the bloodthirsty media realm, but the film certainly plumbs some uncomfortable depths with its expert exploitation of one's inability to look away. (10/31/2014)

★★★★

– William Goss
TINSELTOWN SOUTH

CONTINUED ON P.53

SPECIAL SCREENINGS

BY JOSH KUPECKI

THURSDAY 1/15

☛ **Celine and Julie Go Boating (1974)**
D: Jacques Rivette; with Juliet Berto, Dominique Labourier. (NR, 193 min.) **AFS Essential Cinema: Jacques Rivette.** Rivette's quintessential film is a delightful romp that engagingly encapsulates the artist's lifelong themes about the nature of narrative and meaning. Foregrounding these weighty issues is the charming story of two women whose lives become inextricably bound through ... dreams? magic? intrigue? The viewers' perceptions? It's a classic work of cinema that simultaneously invites and defies interpretation. For more on the series, see "Revisiting Rivette," Jan. 9. @Marchesa Hall & Theatre, 7:30pm.

Mean Girls Quote-Along (2004) D: Mark Waters; with Lindsay Lohan, Rachel McAdams, Tina Fey. (PG-13, 97 min.) **Girlie Night.** @Alamo Lakeline, 7:25pm.

Portlandia IFC at the Alamo. Episodes of this popular sketch show screen. Admission is free, but secure your seat by purchasing a \$5 food/beverage voucher. @Alamo South Lamar, 7pm.

☛ **Raw Force (1982)** D: Edward D. Murphy; with Cameron Mitchell, Geoffrey Binney, Hope Holiday, Jillian Kesner. (R, 86 min.) **Vinegar Syndrome.** Martial artists are on a mystery island that's overseen by a Hitler look-alike who runs a white-slavery operation. @Alamo South Lamar, 10pm.

Totally Eighties Sing-Along: Madonna Party Action Pack. @Alamo Ritz, 10pm.

SPACES

Cesar's Last Fast (2014) D: Richard Ray Perez and Lorena Parlee. (NR, 100 min.) In 1988, Cesar Chavez embarked on a 36-day water-only hunger strike, to draw attention to the horrific effects of unfettered pesticide use on farm workers. @MACC, 6pm.

FRIDAY 1/16

Con Air (1997) D: Simon West; with Nicolas Cage, John Cusack, John Malkovich, Steve Buscemi, Ving Rhames. (R, 125 min.) **Master Pancake.** Master Pancake spoofs Cage and the gang. (*) @Alamo Lakeline, 7, 10.

Labyrinth Sing- and Quote-Along (1986) D: Jim Henson; with David Bowie, Jennifer Connelly. (PG, 101 min.) **Action Pack.** @Alamo Ritz, 10pm.

☛ **The Lodger (1927)** D: Alfred Hitchcock; with June, Ivor Novello, Marie Ault. (NR, 90 min.) **Austin Classical Guitar Presents.** An original score, by Joseph V. Williams II, is performed by cellist Bion Tsang and members of the Texas Guitar Quartet. *Film Score Focus* host Brian Satterwhite will lead a discussion with the musicians after the film. @Alamo South Lamar, 7pm.

☛ **Phenomena and Labyrinth Double Feature** See p.50.

☛ **There Will Be Blood (2008)** D: Paul Thomas Anderson; with Daniel Day-Lewis, Paul Dano. (R, 158 min.) Day-Lewis won his second Best Actor Oscar for this oily con-tender. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 6:20pm.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Jan. 30 issue is Monday, Jan. 19.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 512/458-6910; or email. Contact Josh Kupecki (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com; Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): calendar@austinchronicle.com.

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SATURDAY 1/17

The Big Lebowski Quote-Along (1998)
Action Pack. @Alamo Ritz, 7:30pm.

Con Air (1997) Master Pancake. @Alamo Lakeline, 7, 10. (See Friday.)

☛ **The Lodger (1927)** Austin Classical Guitar Presents. @Alamo South Lamar, 3:45, 7. (See Friday.)

The Merry Widow (2014) D: Susan Stroman; with Renée Fleming, Nathan Gunn, Kelli O'Hara. (NR, 180 min.) **NCM Fathom: The Metropolitan Opera Live in HD.** Lehár's enchanting operetta is reimagined in an art nouveau style. @CM Cedar Park, Tinseltown North, Arbor, CM Hill Country Galleria, Metropolitan, Southpark Meadows, 11:55am.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) (R, 95 min.) Austin fans have been dressing up and doing the "Time Warp" thing live for more than three decades. For more info, see www.austinrocky.org. @Alamo Village, 12mid.

☛ **There Will Be Blood (2008)**
@Alamo Ritz, 3:45pm. (See Friday.)

Totally Eighties Sing-Along: Madonna Party Action Pack. @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 10:15pm. (See Thursday, 1/15.)

Ultimate Nineties Party Action Pack. @Alamo Ritz, 10:30pm.

SUNDAY 1/18

All About Eve (1950) D: Joseph L. Mankiewicz; with Bette Davis, Anne Baxter, George Sanders, Celeste Holm, Gary Merrill, Marilyn Monroe, Barbara Bates. (R, 138 min.) **Classics.** With a record 14 Oscar nominations for the cast and crew, this showbiz classic is as wicked and sophisticated as they come. (*) @CM Hill Country Galleria, Tinseltown North, 2pm.

The Complete Hitoshi Matsumoto Marathon The Funniest Man on Earth. Four films from the genius Japanese director screen including a sneak peek of his latest film, *R100*. @Alamo South Lamar, noon.

Monty Python and the Holy Grail Quote-Along Action Pack. @Alamo Village, 7pm.

☛ **Phenomena and Labyrinth Double Feature** See p.50.

Scott Pilgrim vs. the World Quote-Along (2010) D: Edgar Wright; with Michael Cera. (PG-13, 112 min.) **Action Pack.** @Alamo Lakeline, 7pm; Alamo Slaughter Lane, 7:15pm.

☛ **The Vanquishing of the Witch Baba Yaga (2014)** See p.50.

☛ **Winterbeast (1991)** D: Christopher Thies; with Tim R. Morgan, Mike Magri, Bob Harlow. (R, 80 min.) **Video Vortex.** That creepy Mr. Sheldon up at the Wild Goose Lodge has unleashed a bunch of monsters on an unsuspecting mountain town. This film will make you question your entire existence. @Alamo Ritz, 10:30pm.

SPACES

The Happiness of the Katakuris (2001) D: Takashi Miike; with Naoto Takenaka, Tetsuro Tanba, Naomi Nishida, Shinji Takeda, Keiko Matsuzaka, Kenji Sawada. (NR, 113 min.) **Reel Special Cinema.** This film is something of a departure for Miike, seeing as how it's chock-full of robust romance and – we kid you not – musical numbers. While this is ultimately a crazy meditation on family values and the like, it's still mind-bogglingly goofy filmmaking. There are rumors of a pizza party, as well. (*) @Spider House Ballroom, 7pm.

MONDAY 1/19

The Big Lebowski Quote-Along (1998)
Action Pack. @Alamo South Lamar, 10:05pm. (See Saturday.)

James Brown: Live at the Boston Garden, 1968 (2004) (NR, 80 min.) **Music Monday.** This is the famous James Brown concert that was broadcast on WGBH in Boston on April 5, less than 24 hours after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. @Alamo Ritz, 9:45pm.

Miami Vice (2006) D: Michael Mann; with Jamie Foxx, Colin Farrell, Gong Li, Naomie Harris, Ciarán Hinds. (R, 132 min.) **The Films of Michael Mann.** Perhaps vice isn't what it used to be, or maybe Crockett and Tubbs don't belong in this new time slot, but Michael Mann's movie turns out to be dreary and monochromatic. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 6:30pm.



There Will Be Blood

Patterns of Evidence: The Exodus (2014) D: Timothy Mahoney. (NR, 180 min.) **NCM Fathom.** This doc explores whether stories of the Bible actually took place. A forum discussion follows the film. @CM Cedar Park, CM Stone Hill Town Center, Tinseltown North, Arbor, CM Hill Country Galleria, Metropolitan, Southpark Meadows, 7pm.

☛ **An Unreal Dream: The Michael Morton Story (2013)** D: Al Reinert. (NR, 90 min.) **The Front Porch Presents.** director Al Reinart takes on the troubling miscarriage-of-justice story of Michael Morton, the central Texas resident who was jailed for 25 years for the murder of his wife – a crime he did not commit. Although released from prison in 2011, Morton and the story of his wrongful conviction still resonate locally and nationally. this screening is part of the Front Porch series "The Elephant in the Room Symposium." @Alamo Village, 7pm.

SPACES

☛ **Savage Gold** D: Various. Austin Film Society: Arthouse, Maximillian Meehan and Lars Nilsen lead you down the rabbit hole to uncover pure, undiluted cinema in its rawest form. When the lights come up, you will be forever changed. Unmissable. @Austin Studios Screening Room, 8pm.

TUESDAY 1/20

Jason Goes to Hell: The Final Friday (1993) D: Karel Kachyna; with Tom Courtenay, Brigitte Fossey, Freddie Jones, Linda Jablonska, Daniel Margolius. (R) **Terror Tuesday.** It appears no one can keep Jason Voorhees from coming back to life. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 10:10pm.

Mean Girls Quote-Along (2004) Girlie Night. @Alamo Ritz, 7:30pm. (See Thursday, 1/15.)

Monty Python and the Holy Grail Quote-Along Action Pack. @Alamo Village, 7:05pm. (See Sunday.)

SPACES

Miracle Mile (1988) D: Steve de Jarnatt; with Anthony Edwards, Mare Willingham. (R, 87 min.) **Weeknight Cinema: Nerve-Wracking Nights.** A man meets the girl of his dreams, then misses a connection with her while also accidentally discovering that Los Angeles is about to become the target of a nuclear-bomb attack. @Milwood Branch Library, 6:30pm.

WEDNESDAY 1/21

All About Eve (1950) Classics. @CM Hill Country Galleria, Tinseltown North, 2, 7. (See Sunday.)

☛ **Don't Look Now (1973)** D: Nicolas Roeg; with Julie Christie, Donald Sutherland, Hilary Mason. This is one of those movies that keeps on giving – its gothic moodiness is impossible to shake off. Julie Christie is at her most luminous and Donald Sutherland is at his most subdued as the parents of a drowned child who spend a wintry season in Venice chasing ghosts of their daughter and reasons to believe. Nic Roeg here offers one of the most disconcerting portraits of otherworldliness ever seen on the screen. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 6:45pm.

Getting High (1971) D: J. Johnson; with André Lawrence, Mignon Elkins, Michèle Mercure. (NR, 96 min.) **Weird Wednesday.** A rich kid and a hippie switch places in this Canadian sexploitation comedy. @Alamo Ritz, 9:35pm.

☛ **Meet Me There (2014)** D: Lex Lybrand; with Lisa Friedrich, Michael Foulk, Dustin Runnels. (NR, 93 min.) A couple travel to a small town in Oklahoma in an attempt to repair their relationship in this film from locally based Greenless Studios. Cast and crew will be on-hand for a Q&A. @Alamo South Lamar, 7pm.

The Merry Widow (2014) NCM Fathom: The Metropolitan Opera Live in HD. @CM Cedar Park, Tinseltown North, Arbor, CM Hill Country Galleria, Metropolitan, Southpark Meadows, 6:30pm. (See Saturday.)

☛ **Outlaw Blues (1977)** See p.51.

Pay 2 Play (2014) D: John Ennis. (NR, 87 min.) On the anniversary of the Supreme Court's Citizen United decision, this doc about money and politics screens. Various members of local political groups will have a Q&A after the film. @Alamo Village, 6:30pm.

Scott Pilgrim vs. the World Quote-Along (2010) Action Pack. @Alamo Lakeline, 7pm; Alamo Slaughter Lane, 7:20pm. (See Sunday.)

Serenity (2005) D: Joss Whedon. (PG-13, 119 min.) Joss Whedon's Western/sci-fi hybrid (which was canceled from TV but greenlighted for the movies) evinces a swashbuckling bonhomie. (*) @Flux Brewhouse, 7:30pm.

THURSDAY 1/22

Jason Goes to Hell: The Final Friday (1993) Terror Tuesday. @Alamo Ritz, 10:45pm. (See Tuesday.)

Klown (2010) D: Mikkel Nørgaard; with Frank Hvam, Casper Christensen, Marcuz Jess Petersen, Mia Lyhne, Iben Hjejle. (R, 88 min.) Raunchy comedy ensues in this Danish import in which a couple of guys kidnap a kid and embark on a canoe trip of misadventures. (*) @Alamo South Lamar, 10pm.

Scott Pilgrim vs. the World Quote-Along (2010) Action Pack. @Alamo Ritz, 7:30pm. (See Sunday.)

☛ **Va Savoir (2001)** See p.51.

OFFSCREEN

Austin Film Festival: Screenplay & Teleplay Competition and Film Competition Known as the "Writer's Festival" for the past 20 years, AFF seeks out films that display strong written and visual storytelling. A new category has been added this year for short screenplays and is open to narrative scripts 40 pages in length or less. See website for details. Screenplay and teleplay deadline: April 20. Film deadline: May 20. www.austinfilmfestival.com.



Don't Look Now

FILM LISTINGS CONTINUED FROM P.51

PENGUINS OF MADAGASCAR

D: Eric Darnell, Simon J. Smith; with the voices of Tom McGrath, Chris Miller, Christopher Knights, Conrad Vernon, John Malkovich, Benedict Cumberbatch, Ken Jeong, Annet Mahendru, Peter Stormare. (PG, 92 min.)

What's black and white and a bit of a blur? That'd be the penguin leads of this latest feature from DreamWorks Animation. Regular viewers of the Emmy Award-winning Nickelodeon series *The Penguins of Madagascar* (a spin-off of 2005's *Madagascar*) should have no problem identifying the ragtag group of amateur secret agents – leader Skipper (voiced by Tom McGrath); Kowalski (Miller), the brains; wild-eyed Rico (Vernon), the regurgitation expert; and the new addition, young founding Private (Knights) – but newcomers might have some trouble telling these adorable protagonists apart. When a mad octopus named Dave (Malkovich) threatens to wipe out the world's penguin population, times turn serious (okay, seriously silly) for Skipper's crew. A merry entertainment that never pretends to greatness, *Penguins of Madagascar* is all about antics, verbal and visual, and its commitment to daffiness strikes the right chord. And, oh yes: Even computer-generated penguins really are just the cutest. (11/28/2014) ★★★ – Kimberley Jones

CM ROUND ROCK, CM SOUTHPARK MEADOWS, GATEWAY

PK

D: Rajkumar Hirani; with Aamir Khan, Anushka Sharma, Sushant Singh Rajput, Boman Irani, Saurabh Shukla, Sanjay Dutt. (NR, 153 min., subtitled)

Not reviewed at press time. Philosophical Bollywood comedy that's doing big business at the box office. (12/19/2014) – Marjorie Baumgarten

TINSELTOWN SOUTH

★ SELMA

D: Ava DuVernay; with David Oyelowo, Tom Wilkinson, Cuba Gooding Jr., Carmen Ejogo, Tim Roth, Tessa Thompson, Common, Wendell Pierce, André Holland, Oprah Winfrey, Lorraine Toussaint, Giovanni Ribisi, Keith Stanfield, Niecy Nash, Alessandro Nivola, Dylan Baker, Martin Sheen. (PG-13, 127 min.)

Nearly 50 years to the day of the Selma, Ala., voting-rights marches, comes this screen effort that not only refreshes our collective memory of America's tortured racial history but also questions our nation's reformation over the intervening decades. Although dramatically uneven, *Selma* is a commendable historical drama that sidesteps the pitfalls of adulatory biopics. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (Oyelowo, magnificent) is depicted as the leader of the civil rights movement in the U.S., yes, but he is also shown as a conflicted and flawed human being – something of a first. Still, despite director DuVernay's efforts to show that King's voice was just one of many, the film's other characters seem secondary and incompletely realized. Most revealing is *Selma*'s demonstration of the idea that nonviolent protest cannot exist in a vacuum. Nonviolence can be a tricky strategy when it depends on its opposite – violence – in order to be heard. (01/09/2015)

★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, CM SOUTHPARK MEADOWS, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER, FLIX BREWHOUSE, HIGHLAND, GATEWAY, IPIC, LAKELINE, MOVIEHOUSE, TINSELTOWN NORTH, TINSELTOWN SOUTH, VIOLET CROWN, WESTGATE

★ THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING

D: James Marsh; with Eddie Redmayne, Felicity Jones, Charlie Cox, David Thewlis, Simon McBurney, Maxine Peake, Emily Watson. (PG-13, 123 min.)

Inspired by Jane Wilde Hawking's memoir about life with her former husband, theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking, *The Theory of Everything* is a delicate observation of the boundless universe of love's possibilities – what we're willing to give, what we're willing to take, what we're willing to endure. The couple's courtship begins at Cambridge in 1962: Stephen (Redmayne) is a shy young man with a wide, toothy grin; Jane (Jones) is a self-possessed young woman who finds herself drawn to this unlikeliest of suitors. Soon, omens of Stephen's degenerative illness begin to manifest, and he withdraws from the world – but Jane refuses to allow him to go gently. It's a remarkable love story, but as lovely as the film is, it's strangely inert. What takes *The Theory of Everything* into the cosmos is Redmayne's extraordinary performance. With a smile, a frown, or a tear, he says everything without uttering a word. (11/21/2014)

★★★ – Steve Davis
ARBOR, METROPOLITAN

UNBROKEN

D: Angelina Jolie; with Jack O'Connell, Domhnall Gleeson, Miyavi, Garrett Hedlund, Finn Wittrock, Jai Courtney, John Magaro, Luke Treadaway, Alex Russell. (PG-13, 137 min.)

Angelina Jolie's second outing as a director strives for epic inspiration, and, for the most part, achieves it. The film tells the story of the trials experienced by Louie Zamperini (O'Connell, the film's strongest asset), a U.S. runner, who competed in the 1936 Olympics before joining the Air Force and having his plane crash-land, surviving 47 days at sea in a life raft, getting rescued by the Japanese, and spending the rest of the war shuttled between harsh POW camps. *Unbroken* is a fairly flawless product: a story of grand heroism and paradigmatic inspiration, epic in scope and imagery, faultless in all matters of technique, and polished to a fine sheen. Jolie may cue all the right emotions in this tale of one man's struggle to overcome harrowing hardships, but she relies more on common denominators than personal touches, and ends up with a film that conveys grandeur without much personality. (12/26/2014)

★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, CM SOUTHPARK MEADOWS, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER, GATEWAY, IPIC, LAKELINE, METROPOLITAN, MOVIEHOUSE, WESTGATE

★ WHIPLASH

D: Damien Chazelle; with Miles Teller, J.K. Simmons, Melissa Benoist, Paul Reiser, Austin Stowell, Nate Lang. (R, 107 min.)

This film, about a young jazz drummer at a cutthroat-competitive conservatory, doesn't just borrow a cup of energy from its percussive score – it steals a whole quart. Socially maladroit and painfully single-minded, freshman Andrew (Teller) lives only to drum. Early on, he's tapped by a brutal instructor named Fletcher (Simmons) to join his elite competition band. Fletcher, a legendary monster, knows how to motivate this dewy-eyed hopeful, and Andrew does get better – he gets great, actually – even as he shudders when his alpha barks. Ultimately, writer/director Damien Chazelle isn't interested in the long lens. He's tightly fixated on master and supplicant, each with his own agenda, and the film is essentially one long cockfight. But, does Chazelle really have anything unique to say about Teller's youngling or Simmons' raging megalomaniac? The leads' prolonged, puffed-feathers sparring is entertaining while it lasts, but the sensation is only fleeting. (10/31/2014)

★★★ – Kimberley Jones
ARBOR, VIOLET CROWN

★ WILD

D: Jean-Marc Vallée; with Reese Witherspoon, Laura Dern, Thomas Sadoski, Gaby Hoffmann, Michael Huisman, Kevin Rankin, W. Earl Brown, Mo'Nique. (R, 115 min.)

The rare film that captures the typically tricky-to-translate whims of the voice inside one's head, *Wild* begins with a woman alone on a mountain. She is Cheryl Strayed (Witherspoon) – a real-life writer, whose bestselling memoir about hiking solo 1,100 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail the movie is based on – and she has seen a lot. From that first mountaintop shot, which concludes with Cheryl howling “fuck you, bitch!” to the wilderness, the film jogs back to the beginning of Cheryl's hike. In fact, the jogging never stops, and the film also forges a more impressionistic path as Cheryl sorts through her memories. Director Jean-Marc Vallée's representation of Cheryl's wandering mind is canny, and *Wild* lands some hard punches, but it can't sustain the impact. In part it's the limitation of the medium: A movie has to end somewhere, but the conversation in the brain – that never stops. (12/12/2014)

★★★ – Kimberley Jones
ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR, ARBOR, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, TINSELTOWN SOUTH, VIOLET CROWN

THE WOMAN IN BLACK 2: ANGEL OF DEATH

D: Tom Harper; with Helen McCrory, Jeremy Irvine, Phoebe Fox, Oaklee Pendergast, Adrian Rawlins, Leanne Best, Ned Dennehy. (PG-13, 98 min.)

Hammer Studios' 2012 film *The Woman in Black* wasn't exactly a watershed moment for the British production company, but it wasn't half bad. This sequel, sadly, is more than half bad, although to be fair, it tries. More than 40 years since the events of the first film, the German Blitz engulfs London in nightly firestorms. Evacuating to the relative safety of the countryside, schoolteacher Eve (Fox), sturdy headmistress Jean (McCrory), and their small flock of grade-school pupils find themselves at Eel Marsh

House, the site of the original film's hauntings. Suffice it to say, things do not end well. Director Harper generates a palpable sense of eeriness via top-notch production design, but what's missing from *The Woman in Black 2* is suspense. There's a crippling over-reliance on easy shock scares that cheapen the moribund proceedings: Slamming doors and rocking chairs in the night can only do so much, after all. (01/09/2015)

★★ – Marc Savlov
CM SOUTHPARK MEADOWS, HIGHLAND, TINSELTOWN NORTH, TINSELTOWN SOUTH

ALSO PLAYING

Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com.

★ ALEXANDER AND THE TERRIBLE, HORRIBLE, NO GOOD, VERY BAD DAY ★★★ MOVIES 8, LAKE CREEK 7

★ BEYOND THE LIGHTS ★★★★ MOVIES 8 THE BOOK OF LIFE ★★★ MOVIES 8, LAKE CREEK 7

DUMB AND DUMBER TO ★★★ MOVIES 8, MILLENNIUM, LAKE CREEK 7, TINSELTOWN SOUTH

★ THE EQUALIZER ★★★ MOVIES 8

FURY ★★★ LAKE CREEK 7

HORRIBLE BOSSES 2 ★★★ MOVIES 8, LAKE CREEK 7

★ JOHN WICK ★★★★★ LAKE CREEK 7

★ THE MAZE RUNNER ★★★ MOVIES 8, LAKE CREEK 7

OUIJA ▼ MOVIES 8, LAKE CREEK 7

THE PYRAMID ★★ MOVIES 8

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A NEW YEAR MEANS NEW BEGINNINGS.

The Austin Chronicle critics get in the spirit by picking some of their all-time favorite makeovers in film.

The Long Kiss Goodnight ACTION

This Renny Harlin effort stars Geena Davis (the director's then-wife) as a charmingly mild suburban housewife who discovers she's been made over into that role from a far different archetype. In Davis' quest for identity, this film does so many things right, it's not clear as to where it goes so wrong. Still, it's an awful lot of fun in the process. – Louis Black

Ninotchka DIRECTOR'S WALL (LUBITSCH)

Under the influence of Champagne, a frivolous hat, and the City of Lights, Greta Garbo goes from humorless Communist apparatchik to a giggling woman in love. It's the movie that made headlines: “Garbo Laughs!” – Kimberley Jones

Altered States DIRECTOR'S WALL (RUSSELL)

How about a genetic makeover? Watch William Hurt as he transforms from arrogant professor to primitive man (and primordial matter) in his attempt to unlock the secrets of the mind via hallucinogenics and sensory deprivation, all under the delirious direction of madman Ken Russell. – Josh Kupecki

Glen or Glenda CULT (ED WOOD)

Say what you will about Ed Wood's directorial capabilities, this wild and woolly (as in angora) remains one of the very first trans-positive movies ever committed to celluloid. Originally titled *I Changed My Sex*!, the famously cross-dressing director plays the camp-tastic title role while an aging and opiate-addicted Bela Lugosi narrates from a batty living room set. – Marc Savlov

Tootsie COMEDY Victor Victoria DIRECTOR'S WALL (EDWARDS)

What was it about 1982 that saw the release of these two cross-dressing gender-benders? In *Tootsie*, Dustin Hoffman plays an actor who dresses as a woman to get a role in a soap opera; and in *Victor Victoria*, Julie Andrews is a singer who disguises herself as a male in order to get work as a female impersonator.

– Marjorie Baumgarten

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SHOWTIMES

An asterisk (*) before a title means that no passes or special admission discounts will be accepted. Changes may sometimes occur; viewers are encouraged to call theatres to confirm showtimes. For updated showtimes, [see austinchronicle.com/film](http://see.austinchronicle.com/film).

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ACTION PACK: THE BIG LEBOWSKI QUOTE-ALONG: Sat, 7:30pm

DON'T LOOK NOW: Wed (1/21), 6:45pm

WEIRD WEDNESDAY: GETTING HIGH:

Wed (1/21), 9:35pm

INHERENT VICE: Fri, noon, 2:20, 3:30, 7:00, 10:30; Sat, 11:00am, 12:15, 3:00, 6:30, 10:00pm; Sun, 10:30am, 11:30, 2:00, 3:00, 6:30, 10:00pm; Mon, 11:00am, noon, 2:30, 3:30, 7:00, 10:30pm; Tue, noon, 3:30, 7:00, 10:40; Wed (1/21), 12:15, 2:30, 3:45, 7:15, 10:45; Thu (1/22), 12:30, 2:30, 4:00, 6:45, 10:15

MUSIC MONDAY: JAMES BROWN: LIVE AT THE BOSTON GARDEN, 1968: Mon, 9:45pm

TERROR TUESDAY: JASON GOES TO HELL: THE FINAL FRIDAY: Tue, 10:10pm; Thu (1/22), 10:45pm

ACTION PACK: LABYRINTH SING- AND QUOTE-ALONG: Fri, 10:00pm

GIRLIE NIGHT: MEAN GIRLS QUOTE-ALONG:

Tue, 7:30pm

MIAMI VICE: Mon, 6:30pm

ACTION PACK: SCOTT PILGRIM VS. THE WORLD QUOTE-ALONG: Thu (1/22), 7:30pm

THERE WILL BE BLOOD: Fri, 6:20pm; Sat, 3:45pm

ACTION PACK: ULTIMATE NINETIES PARTY:

Sat, 10:30pm

THE VANQUISHING OF THE WITCH BABA YAGA:

Sun, 5:30pm

VIDEO VORTEX: WINTERBEAST: Sun, 10:30pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKELINE

14028 U.S. 183 N., BLDG. F, 512/861-7070.

AMERICAN SNIPER: Fri, 12:20, 1:45, 3:35, 5:00, 6:15, 8:15, 9:45, 11:30; Sat, 10:30am, 12:20, 1:45, 3:35, 5:00, 8:15, 9:25, 11:30pm; Sun, 10:25am, 11:20, 12:55, 1:45, 2:45, 3:10, 4:10, 5:00, 6:35, 7:25, 8:15, 10:00, 10:15, 10:55, 11:30pm; Mon, 10:25am, 11:20, 1:45, 2:45, 3:10, 3:35, 5:00, 6:15, 6:35, 7:00, 8:15, 9:45, 10:15, 10:30pm; Tue, 10:25am, 11:20, 12:55, 1:45, 2:45, 3:10, 4:10, 5:00, 6:15, 6:35, 7:20, 8:15, 9:45, 10:15, 10:30pm; Wed (1/21), 10:25am, 11:20, 12:55, 1:45, 2:45, 3:10, 4:10, 5:00, 6:35, 7:25, 8:15, 10:00, 10:15, 10:55, 11:30pm; Thu (1/22), 10:25am, 11:20, 12:55, 1:45, 2:45, 3:10, 4:10, 5:00, 6:15, 6:35, 8:15, 9:45, 10:15pm

***BLACKHAT:** Fri, 1:20, 4:35, 7:45, 10:50; Sat, 10:15am, 1:20, 4:35, 7:45, 10:50pm; Sun, 10:10am, 1:20, 4:35, 7:45, 10:50pm; Mon, 10:10am, 1:20, 4:35, 7:45, 10:50pm; Tue-Thu (1/22), 10:10am, 1:20, 4:35, 7:45, 10:50pm

MASTER PANCAKE: CON AIR: Fri-Sat, 7:00, 10:00

***THE HOBBIT: THE BATTLE OF THE FIVE ARMIES:** Fri, 11:35am, 2:45pm; Sat, 11:20am, 2:35pm

INHERENT VICE: Fri, 11:20am, 3:10, 6:35, 10:15pm; Sat, 11:25am, 3:10, 6:35, 10:15pm

***INTO THE WOODS:** Fri, 11:50am, 2:35, 6:00, 9:05pm; Sat, 11:50am, 2:25, 6:15, 9:05pm; Sun-Wed (1/21), 11:50am, 2:35, 6:00, 9:05pm; Thu (1/22), 11:50am, 2:35pm

***PADDINGTON:** Fri, 11:55am, 3:00, 6:00, 8:55pm; Sat, 11:40am, 2:55, 6:00, 9:55pm; Sun-Thu (1/22), 11:45am, 3:00, 6:00, 8:55pm

ACTION PACK: SCOTT PILGRIM VS. THE WORLD QUOTE-ALONG: Sun, 7:00pm; Wed (1/21), 7:00pm

SELMA: Fri, 11:20am, 4:15, 7:25, 10:35pm; Sat, 1:00, 4:15, 7:25, 10:35pm; Sun, 12:35, 3:50, 6:15, 9:25; Mon, 12:35, 4:10, 7:25, 10:35pm; Tue, 12:35, 3:50, 7:00, 10:10; Wed (1/21), 12:35, 3:50, 6:15, 9:25; Thu (1/22), 12:35, 3:50, 6:00, 9:10

***TAKEN 3:** Fri, 11:45am, 2:25, 5:45, 8:40, 11:35pm; Sat-Sun, 11:35am, 2:25, 5:45, 8:40, 11:35pm; Mon, 11:35am, 2:25, 5:45, 8:35, 11:25pm; Tue-Thu (1/22), 11:35am, 2:25, 5:45, 8:40, 11:35pm

***THE WEDDING RINGER:** Fri, 11:40am, 3:00, 5:25, 8:05, 10:55pm; Sat, 11:35am, 3:00, 5:25, 8:05, 10:55pm; Sun-Thu (1/22), 11:40am, 3:00, 5:25, 8:05, 10:55pm

WILD: Fri, 10:25am; Sat, 10:05am; Sun-Thu (1/22), 10:00am

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SLAUGHTER LANE

5701 W. SLAUGHTER LN., 512/476-1320.

***AMERICAN SNIPER:** Fri, 11:45am, 12:15, 2:45, 3:45, 7:10, 8:20, 10:30pm; Sat, 9:35am, 11:50, 12:50, 2:45, 3:45, 7:10, 8:20, 10:25pm; Sun, 9:50am, 1:25, 2:45, 4:40, 6:15, 7:30, 9:30, 10:25pm; Mon, 9:25am, 11:10, 1:30, 4:45, 7:00, 8:00, 10:15pm; Tue, 10:25am, 1:05, 4:20, 7:00, 8:00, 10:30pm; Wed (1/21), 9:50am, 11:05, 1:10, 4:40, 7:00, 7:55, 10:15pm; Thu (1/22), 11:20am, 1:20, 2:55, 4:35, 6:40, 7:50, 9:40, 11:05pm

***ANNIE:** Fri, 1:50pm; Sat, 1:45pm; Sun, 12:45pm; Mon, 4:15pm; Tue, 3:10pm; Wed (1/21), 4:10pm; Thu (1/22), 1:05pm

***BIG HERO 6:** Fri, 10:50am; Sat, 9:00am; Sun, 9:35am; Mon, 9:40am; Tue, 1:40pm; Wed (1/21), 9:35am; Thu (1/22), 10:30am

***THE HOBBIT: THE BATTLE OF THE FIVE ARMIES:** Fri-Sat, 4:45, 9:00; Sun, 3:50, 10:45; Mon, 12:30, 2:55, 10:10; Tue, 3:55, 9:00; Wed (1/21), 2:55, 9:25; Thu (1/22), 4:20pm

THE IMITATION GAME: Fri-Sat, 11:15am, 2:10, 5:05, 7:55, 11:15pm; Sun, 10:35am, 2:15, 5:15, 8:20, 11:10pm; Mon, 10:20am, 1:10, 4:30, 7:20, 9:00pm; Tue, 10:00am, 12:50, 3:00, 7:20, 10:20pm; Wed (1/21), 9:40am, 12:45, 4:25, 6:35, 9:00pm; Thu (1/22), 12:05, 3:45, 6:15, 11:35

INHERENT VICE: Fri, 12:10, 4:05, 6:40, 7:35, 10:55; Sat, 10:15am, 12:10, 4:05, 6:40, 7:35, 10:55pm; Sun, 11:15am, 11:55, 3:25, 6:55, 11:00pm; Mon, 10:00am, 12:45, 2:30, 6:35, 7:40, 9:10pm; Tue, 12:20, 4:30, 6:40, 7:40, 9:10; Wed (1/21), 11:25am, 12:25, 2:30, 7:35, 9:10pm; Thu (1/22), 12:25, 2:35, 8:10, 10:15

THE INTERVIEW: Fri, 11:35pm; Mon-Tue, 11:15pm; Wed (1/21), 11:10pm

***INTO THE WOODS:** Fri, 11:30am, 3:25, 6:15, 9:20pm; Sat, 9:00am, 11:35, 3:25, 6:15, 9:20pm; Sun, 10:55am, 1:05, 4:10, 7:55, 10:10pm; Mon, 9:10am, 12:25, 3:30, 6:00, 10:05pm; Tue, 10:00am, 12:35, 3:55, 6:00, 10:10pm; Wed (1/21), 9:35am, 1:35, 3:35, 6:00, 10:15pm; Thu (1/22), 12:40, 4:05, 6:00, 9:20

ACTION PACK: SCOTT PILGRIM VS. THE WORLD QUOTE-ALONG: Sun, 7:15pm; Wed (1/21), 7:20pm

ACTION PACK: TOTALLY EIGHTIES SING-ALONG: MADONNA PARTY: Sat, 10:15pm

***UNBROKEN:** Fri, 11:05am, 2:30, 6:00, 9:30pm; Sat, 12:30, 3:55, 7:20, 10:40; Sun, noon, 3:20, 6:40, 10:00; Mon, noon, 3:20, 6:45, 10:05; Tue, 11:15am, 2:35, 6:00, 9:20pm; Wed (1/21), 12:35, 2:35, 6:00, 9:20; Thu (1/22), 11:10am, 2:30pm

***THE WEDDING RINGER:** Fri, 12:25, 3:10, 6:00, 10:10; Sat, 9:40am, 12:25, 3:10, 6:00, 11:35pm; Sun, 10:05am, 12:30, 3:10, 6:00, 9:00pm; Mon, 12:15, 3:55, 6:20, 11:10; Tue, 12:30, 3:40, 6:20, 11:10; Wed (1/21), 10:45am, 3:55, 6:20, 11:05pm; Thu (1/22), 12:15, 3:05, 6:00, 9:55

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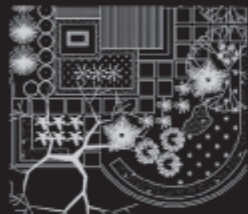
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DUMB AND DUMBER TO: Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 2:05, 5:10, 8:15pm; Wed (1/21)-Thu (1/22), 11:00am, 2:05, 5:10pm

7:20, 8:50, 10:25pm; Tue-Thu (1/22), 11:45am,
1:20, 2:50, 4:20, 5:50, 7:20, 8:50, 10:25pm

THE WEDDING RINGER (CC/DVS): 12:10, 2:45, 5:20, 7:55, 10:30



Watch online at klru.org **klru** (broadcast 18.1, cable 9)



5 TO 7

austinfilm.org/5to7



AUSTIN
cake
BALL



This project is funded and supported in part by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts and in part by the City of Austin Economic Development Department/Cultural Arts Division believing an investment in the Arts is an investment in Austin's future. Visit Austin at NowPlayingAustin.com.

MUSIC

PLAYBACK
BY
KEVIN
CURTIN

Residual Kid Re-Energizes Seymour Stein

"It's all about the song." "Trends are over before you can spot them." "There are only two labels that define music: good or bad."

Seymour Stein imparts wisdom to me freely from the corner table in a coffee shop on Thursday afternoon. The 72-year-old record executive with tired eyes and million dollar ears isn't revealing tricks-of-the-trade. He's talking music and, thus, he's talking life. The father of **Sire Records** and vice president at **Warner Bros. Records** famous for signing the **Ramones**, **Talking Heads**, **Madonna**, **Ice-T**, and **Depeche Mode** considers Austin always worth the trip.

"Austin's a great spawning ground – there's a lot of great players here," he assesses. "People in the industry regard it as an important music center."

The New Yorker flies in at least once a year and rarely misses **South by Southwest**, a week he describes as "tumultuous" and even "hellish," but still a valuable outlet for discovering bands. Last year, on a tip from **BMG** publisher **Kate Hyman**, he witnessed local skateboard-obsessed teenage noise punks **Residual Kid** play a wild day party at **Frank**. They signed to Sire in the fall.

"I've never signed an underage band before," he admits. "I've never seen one I'm interested in. But they're not a boy band. They're experienced beyond their years. As good as they are, and they're very good, they're just going to get better."

Sire represented a dynasty of Austin Ds in the late Nineties: **Don Walser**, **Dale Watson**, the **Derailers**, and the **Damnations**, the latter managed by a pre-**C3 Charles Attal**.

"He's the king," Attal testified about Stein last week. "Never in my life have I encountered someone in the music business with more passion than Seymour Stein. He wants to talk about music with everybody. When I was new and no one would take my phone calls, Seymour was there, staying in touch, asking me what I liked."

Beat on the Brats: (l-r) Ben Redman, Seymour Stein, Max Redman, Deven Ivy



KEVIN CURTIN

Later, Thursday night, Stein's at the Parish on the sound riser, his cane resting on the board.

"I wish I didn't have to watch from here," he sighs. "But these days it's the case."

After **Residual Kid** shreds the stage with grungy sonic blasts in which frontman **Deven Ivy** rakes his guitar strings across an amp head and **Ben Redman** beats his drums so hard they fall over, Stein – 56 years the elder of any member – walks up to the stage, totally re-energized, with a contagious grin.

"Wasn't that great?!"



JOHN ANDERSON

EXIT INTERVIEW: CASEY MONAHAN

"Hey, did you hear? I lost my job," jokes the irrepressibly affable **Casey Monahan** over the phone. Governor-elect **Greg Abbott**'s decision to not retain him as director of the **Texas Music Office**, a position he's held since its 1990 inception, was trending. Funded to the tune of \$280,194 annually, TMO promotes a favorite state industry.

As its captain, Monahan's helped Texas get a **Grammy** chapter, expanded the Manufacturers' Sales Tax Exemption to equipment purchases for record producers, and bestowed formal recognition to the pioneers of Texas music. He's also been a conduit of information, compiling industry resources like the **Texas Music International Tip Sheet** and **Texas Talent Register** while acting as a Yoda-like advisor to young Jedis in the music business. Reports of his termination left many wondering if the TMO's being dissolved.

"I absolutely do not think this office is going away because there's a mandate that the governor's office has a music program," he says, referring to section 485.001 of the state law.

As for Monahan's successor, your guess is as good as his. The only contact he's had with Abbott's team, who didn't respond to inquiries on the matter, was being fired. He isn't sipping sour grapes, however.

"An incoming governor wants to put their own person in, and I have no problem with that," he says before redirecting the community's outpouring of sympathy. "Don't say, 'Save Casey's job.' Just make sure your new governor knows the music business is important to you."

Before he cleans out his desk on Feb. 13, Monahan can update his résumé to highlight his position as the longest-serving head of a state music office, since Texas was the first state to have one. He shoots down my prediction that he'll work for SXSW, but confirms he's had "a couple of job offers."

"I'm going to hang out for at least a month with my son," he exclaims. "He's only 8 months old."

With his departure, Monahan leaves parting advice for the community.

"If you're in the music business, make yourself heard, not solely by your Marshall stack, but by your ability to engage the government," he pleads. "The only reason this office exists is because the music community came together in the mid-Eighties and lobbied the Legislature, saying, 'We're important.' You have to constantly renew that."



KEVIN CURTIN

BOP ENGLISH

Currently between runs on the prog-garage roller-coaster known as **White Denim**, frontman **James Petralli** dropped to his knees in a hail of guitar glory under a new name: **Bop English**. Before debuting the long-planned side project at two **Free Week** performances beginning with a lively **Parish** set of lyrical rock & roll as backed by bassist **Kevin Schneider**, guitarist **Jonathan Horn**, and drummer **Jeffrey Olson**, the singer revealed that an album entitled *Constant Bop* arrives in April on **Downtown Records** (U.S.) and **Blood and Biscuits** (UK). "Man, I've been making this record since I started tracking in 2009," he offered. "It was 25 songs, then I whittled it down to 18, then both of the labels were like, 'You have to cut some more shit out of this record.'" Catch Bop English Saturday at **Hotel Vegas**.

HALF NOTES

SXSW ADDED 547 ACTS on Tuesday, among them gospel preacher **Kirk Franklin**, surf-pop duo **Best Coast**, **Mayer Hawthorne** and **Jake One**'s funky new **Tuxedo**, bluesy songstress **ZZ Ward**, and mini metalheads **Unlocking the Truth**. Some 10% were local, including **Roger Sellers**, **Max Frost**, and **Black Pistol Fire**. The Music portion of the conference runs March 17-22.

VAST MAJORITY PLAYS ITS FIRST SHOW in 35 years tonight (Thursday) at **Beerland**. The Houston punks' singer, sneering on transcendent single "I Wanna Be a Number," grew up into none other than local bassist **Scott Telles** of **ST 37** and **My Education**. The reunion, including an H-town homecoming, occasions a vinyl re-release by **Rave Up Records**. Also playing: free-form assaulters **Art Acevedo** and cover conglomerate **Raul's Royal Foot**.

JOHNNY WINTER'S BEEN REMOVED from the Hall of Fame section of the **Austin Music Poll**. Turns out the late blues guitar phenom already earned his Hall of Fame stripes in 1984 – whoops. That section still has 11 great nominees ranging from soul, punk, country, post-rock, Latin, and one band with "Fuck" in its name. Vote online or using the ballot on p.57 before Feb. 4.

ONLINE // ALL 547 NEW SXSW NAMES | ALL-STAR ATX NOISE | URBAN FESTIVAL | [AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/MUSIC](http://austinchronicle.com/music)

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BLUES/SOUL/FUNK

AVANT-GARDE/EXPERIMENTAL

COUNTRY/BLEUGRASS

FOLK

LATIN

WORLD MUSIC

COVER BAND

U-18 (MAJORITY OF MEMBERS UNDER 18)

NONE OF THE ABOVE

BEST AUSTIN MUSICIANS

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MALE VOCALS

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KEYBOARDS

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MISCELLANEOUS INSTRUMENT

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- One ballot per envelope.
- Photocopied ballots? Never.
- Ballot-stuffing may be punishable.

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MUSIC BUSINESS HALL OF FAME

BEST OF THE YEAR

AUSTIN BAND OF THE YEAR

AUSTIN MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR

AUSTIN SONG OF THE YEAR

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BEST NEW AUSTIN BAND

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Started From the Bottom

It took 20 years, but Austin finally seeded a true hip-hop scene

BY CHASE HOFFBERGER

Months before becoming only the second local rapper to play the Austin City Limits Music Festival – 2008 – Bavu Blakes tucked into a corner booth at Magnolia Cafe on South Congress to discuss his progress on a yearlong series of releases.

By then, the 33-year-old Garland-bred UT grad was more than a year removed from a *Chronicle* cover and 2007's energetic *The Woodgrain Collection*, a mixtape made in tandem with celebrated beatmaster DJ Rapid Ric. He'd worked with all the scene notables: NickNack, Tee-Double, DJ Phylfteen, Gerald G. Through his weekly Hip-Hop Humpdays at the Mercury (now Parish), he and MCs Tray God and Tee-Double, plus multi-instrumental wizard D-Madness, seeded a new millennial hip-hop community hungry for a home field.

Well before our food arrived that day, those trendsetting Wednesdays on Sixth Street had become a distant memory. Six years later, he'd settled into elder statesman status. Until it went off the air that August, Blakes held post as the Urban Music Director at ME Television.

Discussing his "08 Is So Great" campaign and upcoming set in Zilker Park, he didn't hesitate when asked if there was anyone working hip-hop locally that might impact the national scene.

"No, but I think there are some younger ones out there learning from us who will."



Bavu Blakes

WHUT IT DEW

Back in the Nineties, when today's OGs were just new Gs, the question of who could hit big outside city limits was mooted by a more pressing concern: Who could score a headline gig Downtown? Catfish Station, an oasis for hip-hop in a sea of Sixth Street blues bars, shuttered for good in 1995. For years afterward, you'd be hard-pressed to find a local rapper setting up shop in any venue west of I-35.

On East Riverside at the Back Room, local rappers put on shows to exclusively black crowds. Nook's Jump on It concerts in Eastside parks helped developing acts flip bars with more established artists. Eventually Salih Williams, now guitarist in Latasha Lee's Blackties, linked up with Big Moe from Houston and Wreckshop Records. In 2004, he delivered "Still Tippin'" to Swishahouse. That went national.

Austin remained completely local.

"Austin hip-hop doesn't have its own sound," Dirty Wormz's Smackola told these pages in 2002. "There's a lot of diversity. You've got the Down South rappers, the Screwheads. You've got the East Coast-oriented acts, and you've got the West Coast. Everybody I run into is doing something different."

Houston's emergence didn't change that, but it did give Austin something to look up to. South by Southwest hired Matt Sonzala, brought in to book European acts. In 2004,



Kydd Jones

he rallied his co-workers to what was happening in his native Houston. Mike Jones and Paul Wall's Swishahouse were soon guests of the festival, booked alongside UK whiz kid Dizzee Rascal.

"Bun B played as a favor to me," noted Sonzala, now a local promoter, last month. "He didn't even know what South by Southwest was."

Homegrown talent was equally outside the loop. Sonzala remembers the first time MC Fatal, "the OG of this city," got a badge:

"He was like, 'Wait until I show this to all the people in the hood. They won't believe this shit.'"

Houston's emergence put Texas on the rap map, with visits now regular to Austin. Suddenly, the Capital City gained proximity to the hottest spot in hip-hop.

"I remember when Chamillionaire was just selling CDs at MusicMania," says Blakes. "Now look at him! You can't not be inspired by that. You look at him and say, 'What was he doing? He's messing with these people. I can do that.'"

H-Town also birthed a marquee Austin gang. A loose, regional clique that included local Eastsiders Gerald G, Da Ryno, and Black Mike, the Whut It Dew crew bit on H-Town's off-kilter, wholly faded modernization of DJ Screw. DJ Rapid Ric was its architect, adopting the nickname "Mixtape Mechanic" for his endless stream of expansive compilations.

Watching from the wings, the next generation.

"Go back and look at whoever made a Ric mixtape when Whut It Dew was dissolving [at decade's end]," implores Blakes. "It's damn near everybody. It's the League [of Extraordinary Gz]. It's C.O.D. It's Southbound. It's Zeale. It's Phranchyze."



Zeale

DARK SIDE OF THE MOON

Valin "Zeale" Zamarron can safely claim to have accomplished more nationally than any rapper from here. Now 31, the South Austin native has spent the past two years almost exclusively in Los Angeles or on a tour bus. Zeale isn't strictly hip-hop, however.

"I love guitars," he asserts from home after a run with Blue October. "I love distortion. Growing up in Austin, that's what you have: There's a bunch of live music everywhere."

Last fall's high-octane *Frnz & Fngz* EP makes evident Zeale's enthusiasm for big guitars. Ditto for his 2009 debut *Haterz & Robotz*, produced by – you got it – DJ Rapid Ric.

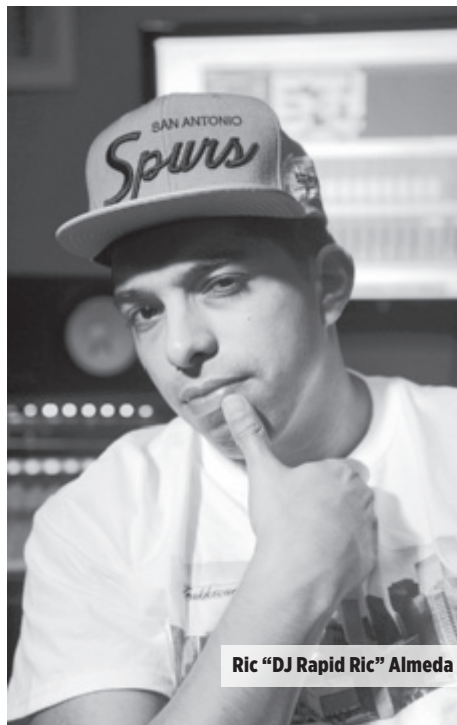
"The main song was a remix of Pink Floyd," he says of "Dull Daze," his take on Pink Floyd's "Time."

Nonetheless, Zeale's forays into hip-hop did as much to advance his career as it did to progress a style within the city. His 2008 collaboration with Phranchyze brought local hip-hop to Fun Fun Fun Fest, and a Lucky Lounge residency with Boombox ATX, Tray God, and MC Overlord further bridged the gap between generations of hip-hop and rap.

By 2010, Zeale had outgrown the market. He took six months to himself and emerged with a new sound helmed by Croatian DJ Marko Jelic. Two years later, at Free Week, he boasted about making his living off of music. Now he tours the country to states as random as Montana and Ohio.

"You'll get 1,500 to 2,000 people out," he says. "That's the thing to do. Some of the bands who open up for us in other cities, man, they're terrible. But they bring out crowds, because that's all that's there."

CONTINUED ON P.60



Ric "DJ Rapid Ric" Almeda

Catfish Station, an oasis for hip-hop in a sea of Sixth Street blues bars, shuttered for good in 1995. For years afterward, you'd be hard-pressed to find a local rapper setting up shop in any venue west of I-35.

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AUSTIN HIP-HOP CONTINUED FROM P.58

Drawing hip-hop crowds in the 512 isn't strictly about talent. It's a deep-rooted racial issue in a still silently segregated city. Stack on the genre's local standing as fifth, ninth, or 19th wheel of genres, and it's no wonder Zeale saw fit to cross over.

"I love to see a mixed crowd," he says. "I don't care if it's guys, girls, white faces, brown faces. That's my own logic. I don't expect a certain type of person."

Five years his junior, fellow Southsider Kydd Jones zeroed in on Zeale's style after stepping into Mohawk one Saturday during his teenage years.

"That night I was like, 'No more all-black shows. I want to be performing to this crowd, to the white people in Austin,'" he says over brisket at Sam's BBQ. "Those are the people who are going to shed light."

Working with Chubbie Baby, a manager out of Atlanta who used to run with Dipset, Jones also reports living off his music. Companies like Red Bull have proven instrumental to his progress. He hopes to release debut album *Gr33d* this spring, complete with an assist from Chuck D.

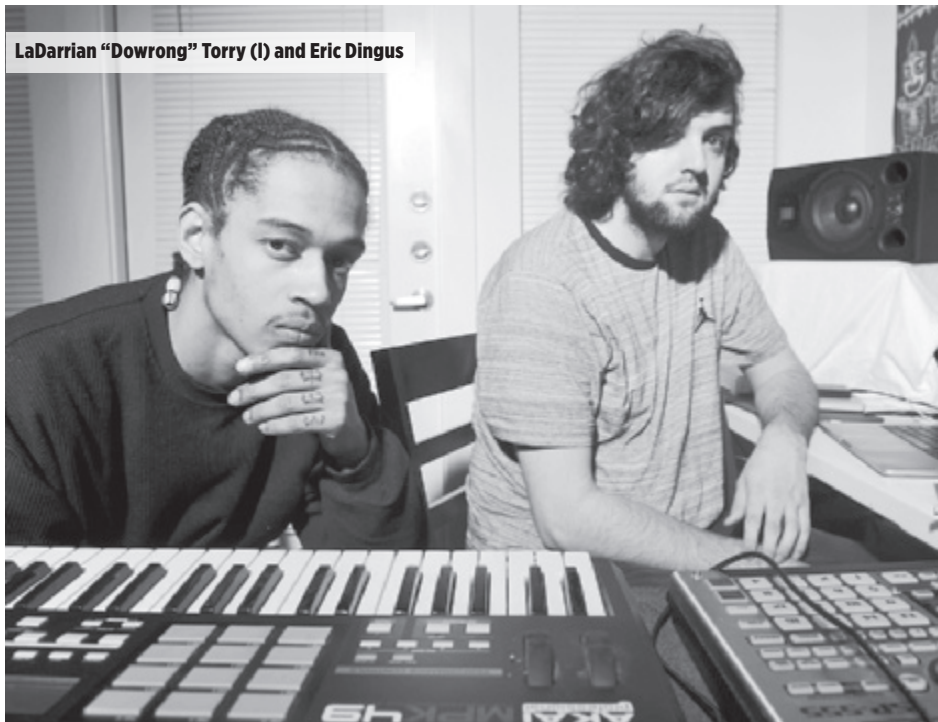
Jones' modest live aspirations parallel a longstanding disparity in the local club scene (revisit "Cold Sweat," June 13, 2014), but Downtown no longer mourns Catfish Station. The North Door spotlights the genre, and Beauty Bar did the same. Holy Mountain, Beauty Bar's successor on Seventh Street, has also become a regular outlet. Transmission Events, whose Fun Fun Fun Fest rests at least one of its fests on hip-hop, books rap regularly at Red 7 and Mohawk. Empire Control Room, which opened last year as one of the most exciting venues in the city, features hip-hop as often as it doesn't.

Live instrumentation helped it happen. It's evident in the shows of Zeale, Kydd Jones, Phranchyze, Magna Carda, and Riders Against the Storm, a husband-and-wife duo originally from Rhode Island who arrived with club gigs that rival the precision of the Roots. Topping it all off, ATX's League of Extraordinary Gz – Dred Skott, Southbound, and southside neighbors Da C.O.D. – converged in 2010 and quickly became the preeminent rap troupe. When League architect Octavis "da 6th Street Bully" Berry died in Oct. 2011 from a pulmonary embolism, the community lost its Pac and Biggie.

"[We're] growing, but we're still suffering," says Jones. "We don't have any real major outlets. We need the industry outlets to make the hype."

WEIRD CITY

Since the Bully's passing, hip-hop has finally grown into a vibrant and unavoidable component of the city's music scene, one that packs Downtown clubs on the strength of local talent. To go with it, a new, robust farm system. Austin Mic Exchange, the weekly Spider House open mic founded in 2012 by rapper Adam Protector (P-Tek) and KOOP Development Director Leah Manners, offers a live forum through which aspiring MCs can develop alongside peers.



PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

"What LaDarrian has with Dingus, that's one of the perfect combinations," proclaims Greezo. "If anybody has a chance [to breakout] from Austin, it's the kid who's putting out music with Drake's producer."

"It's a networking opportunity and unifying scene," says Manners, who hosts KOOP's *Hip-Hop Hoovay* show Sunday afternoons, of the Tuesday residency. "We wanted to create a space where [rappers] could perform without charge. Where there's no barrier to entry in a space that's safe, open to experimentation, and inviting to newcomers."

Now, AMX alums like Feral the Earthworm, Chamothy the Great, and Anya, a female rapper with a crack new band whose recent Free Week set turned heads, perform in clubs throughout the city. Meanwhile,

with the help of Sonzala and others, Manners and Protector doubled down and in September founded the Weird City Hip-Hop Festival, a club-bound weekend focusing on locals, nationals (Dilated Peoples, Guilty Simpson), and SXSW/FFF vets like Jean Grae and Pharoahe Monch. After a successful debut last year, Manners hopes year two hits bigger.

"We believe the talent is here, it just lacks the support network," she says. "We think the festival can become a good tool for that network."



That network truly needs it. Enough talented ATX rappers still feel ignored, and the dearth of women across the landscape remains even more disheartening. Save perhaps Anya, KB the Boo Bonic, Cha'keeta B, Staci Russell, Magna Carda's Megz Kelli, and Riders Against the Storm's Tiger Lily, local femcees have been met with steady roadblocks.

Before releasing Seventies-style blaxploitation stunner *Supacabra* in November, Dallas native Dat Boy Supa threatened to hang up his microphone altogether.

"Sometimes I feel like I'm shouting into a wind tunnel and nobody's listening," he admits. "That's frustrating. But it can be uplifting when that one person hears it and says, 'I love what's there.'"

Mr. Greezo, a LOEGz member who moved to Atlanta after collaborating on the hands-down best rap album this town's ever produced in 2013 debut *#LeagueShit*, has endured similar struggles.

"Hip-hop in Austin is like recreational softball," he says. "You'll wake up and be 40 years old and still performing at Flamingo Cantina. Bavu experienced it. Basswood Lane experienced it. You get to the point where you've done this. And I feel sorry for our fans. They support us but don't see any progress."

As far as an ATX breakout, Greezo has his hopes set on LaDarrian "Dowrong" Torry, the Bully's nephew and son of former Cooly Girl Juana Esparanza, who began hanging around the League as their 14-year-old, lion-besuited mascot. Now 21, Dowrong recently dropped *The Dowrong EP* in conjunction with Eric Dingus, a 19-year-old beatmaking wunderkind putting together music with Drake.

"What LaDarrian has with Dingus, that's one of the perfect combinations," proclaims Greezo. "If anybody has a chance from Austin, it's the kid who's putting out music with Drake's producer."

Dingus wouldn't confirm his relationship with the Toronto megastar when we met for coffee in December.

"Hopefully soon," he mutters at Dominican Joe's on South Congress and Riverside, a block away from the Downtown apartment he recently started renting.

Of record is Dingus' November 2013 remix of Drake's "Worst Behavior," which the rapper's manager Oliver El-Khatib posted onto his client's blog. That remix now has more than 270,000 plays. In June, just prior to a much-publicized appearance at Houston Appreciation Weekend, the Drake camp commissioned Dingus to make a Screwed Up mixtape celebrating both the rapper and Bayou City. Smack in the middle of said mixtape is a chopped-and-screwed take on Dowrong's "Shooters."

"That's a kind-hearted person," Dowrong says of his new producer. "One of the most kind people I've ever met. He's just a real humble dude. I can't even say too much about it."

Dingus recently released an EP with Austin's Bishop Light through he and his friend Zed DiMenno's Dream Sequence Records label. Aside from *The Dowrong EP*

and *Deathbedreams*, an EP he made with LOEGz's Sandman, he's collaborated almost entirely outside of Austin, using the Internet to foster relationships with UK rapper Danny Seth and Minnesota break-out Spooky Black.

"He's this Internet sensation from the last six months," enthuses Dingus of the latter 17-year-old. "I found his song when he had less than 2,000 views. Now it has millions. It's crazy. I did a remix of his song 'Without You' the day after it came out when it had 1,000 or so views. He reposted it on his SoundCloud, and I was getting him attention. Now he's the one bringing attention to my SoundCloud."

Bavu Blakes can't stop talking about the potential future for Dingus and Dowrong a few days after Thanksgiving.

"The biggest rapper in the world doesn't commission you to make a mixtape like that for him as a favor," he nods.

GOOD KID, MAAD CITY

Now 40 and back in Austin after spending time in southern California while his wife pursued her doctorate, Blakes fills his days teaching English language arts to seventh-graders at Decker Middle School. He's a father now. He and his wife have an astute and outgoing little toddler named Ellison to cart around, so toys and tiny figurines lay out across the living room of their Northeast Austin home.

In August, the rapper released his first work in two years: a soulful single called "Summer Saturday Songs" about mowing the lawn and his son digging in the dirt. We take a drive to Pflugerville to pick up Ellison, who likes to queue up DJ Chicken George's Third Root on the car stereo. Blakes holds hope for the current crop of local acts.

"In the last two years, I've seen Kydd and Riders, and their presentations, go from good to great," he says. "The unfulfilled dream is an Austin artist becoming nationally and internationally recognized to the point of becoming a household name. Then, when they come back to Austin, their support rivals that of the other household names who come here from other places.

"Maybe not Jay Z. More like Kendrick Lamar."



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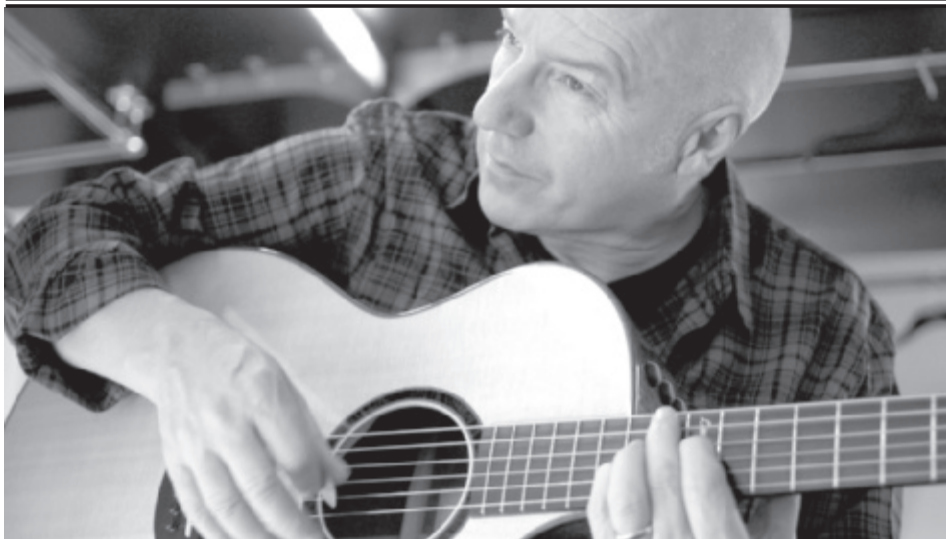
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EDITED BY **RAOUL HERNANDEZ**



Midge Ure

CACTUS CAFE, SUNDAY 18

"I'm looking forward to coming back to Austin," enthuses musical journeyman Midge Ure in his thick Scottish brogue. "I've only been there once before, with Darden Smith. I toured with him many, many years ago, and it went incredibly well."

Ure, perversely, may almost be willing this visit be less successful. His career path remains unusual: A Bay City Rollers-like teen pop outfit, Slik; turning down a budding Sex Pistols, before later joining Glen Matlock's post-Pistols Rich Kids (and at 21 sharing studios and stages with David Bowie guitarist Mick Ronson and Austin's own Ian McLagan); subbing on guitar in Thin Lizzy prior to popularizing synth pop in Ultravox; co-writing "Do They Know It's Christmas?" with Bob Geldof, recently revived under the Band Aid 30 moniker to fight Ebola.

Now, solo acoustic, he tours *Fragile*, his first LP in over a decade and one as lushly

electronic as Ultravox's 1980 commercial breakthrough in the UK, *Vienna*. The 61-year-old singer/songwriter/guitarist is doing this both out of necessity and to make a point, via a concurrently filmed documentary.

"I'm giving myself this ridiculous task of touring America completely unaided: no crew, no tour manager, none of the normal people who would point me in the right direction and tell me what to do. I'm experiencing this for myself, so that when I go back to the UK and talk to young songwriters and young musicians who hope to make a living out of it, I can tell them all the pitfalls that I may encounter over the next few months."

Ure promises plenty of unplugged selections from Ultravox and its successor Visage.

"I'll integrate *Fragile*'s best tracks," he adds. "But nothing's worse than seeing a veteran performer and hearing, 'Here's my entire new album'" — *Tim Stegall*

DISCOS PELIGROSA LAUNCH

Empire Control Room, Friday 16

The sprawling collective of DJs known as Peligrosa turns all manner of rhythmic Latin vinyl into Austin's most vital dance party. Marking the launch of Discos Peligrosa, a new record label from the DJ Orión-led crew, maiden disc *La Remolacha* comes courtesy of Kiko Villamizar, a Miami-born Austinite who grew up in the Colombian Andes. Villamizar brushes with a broad palette but his stunning debut stays firmly rooted in the Afro-Latin folk tradition. Brownout affiliates Money Chicha greases gears with a sloshing bucket of cumbia scuz. — *Thomas Fawcett*

BEN HOWARD

Austin Music Hall, Friday 16

Ben Howard's 2011 debut, *Every Kingdom*, established the UK trou-

badour among the rising tide of new singer-songwriters emerging overseas, delicate balladry woven between deft acoustic fingerpicking. Sophomore follow-up, last year's *I Forget Where We Were*, takes another step forward as Howard maintains the intimacy and searching tone of his gentle tenor that garnered comparisons to John Martyn and José González. He's also grown more adventurous as a composer and arranger. Willy Mason opens. — *Doug Freeman*

ROSIE & THE RAMBLERS, REDD VOLKAERT

Continental Club, Saturday 17

Beginning with Redd Volkaert's longstanding free matinee, Saturday's off the rails on South Congress. 3-5pm, Merle Haggard's guitarist proves that he remains one of the

greatest pickers alive with a repertoire that defies categorization. San Antonio road dogs Two Tons of Steel notch more than 20 years of hard-edged country and revved rockabilly, while relative newcomers Rosie & the Ramblers, led by versatile singer Selena Rosanbalm, released one of Austin's top country discs last year in *Whatever You Need*, traditional, modern, and sly. — *Jim Caligiuri*

LATASHA LEE & THE BLACKTIES

Lamberts, Saturday 17

Following 2013's digital bow and sleeper ACL Fest show, Latasha Lee & the Blackties set fire to every stage they met last year. Besides the sultry drawl, Lee's deft touch with Sixties classics prompts comparisons to Amy Winehouse. Where the Londoner stuck to the Shirelles' interpretation of "Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow,"

Lee reinvents the Marvelettes' "Please Mr. Postman" on last year's debut revamp expansion. Electro soulstress Serafia plies EP *Touching My Soul*. — *Nina Hernandez*

EIGHTH ANNUAL JAM FEST

Belmont, Sunday 18

Benefiting the Eanes Education Foundation, which provides support for teachers' salaries and special ed programs in the Eanes school district, this year's headliner was last year's winner: Room 24. Jam Fest's director, James Mays, who also runs the Band Aid School of Music, says, "I'm really proud of all these young artists who are not only killing it for their age, but also using their talents to improve our community." U18 players: Gentleman's Cup of Tea, Big Wy's Brass Band, Blue Tongue, Bluster, Black Apples, Every Other Weekend, Iconoclasm, Mango Rehab, Skyline, Sophie Werkenthin, Stealth Chopper. — *William Harries Graham*

DON WALSER'S PURE TEXAS BAND REUNION

Broken Spoke, Tuesday 20

Don Walser's high plains yodel was a thing of singular beauty, but don't forget his crack backing band. Beginning in the late Eighties, the Pure Texas Band's weekly stint at Henry's Bar & Grill on Burnet Road became one of the great Austin residencies of all time. Fiddler Howard Kalish, pianist Floyd Domino, steel guitarist Scott Walls, and bassist "Skinny" Don Keeling are just a few of the PTB veterans reuniting Tuesday. Guest performers include Cornell Hurd, Gurf Morix, and Slaid Cleaves. — *Greg Beets*

ARTHUR BROWN

Strange Brew, Tuesday 20

The charismatic namesake behind the Crazy World of Arthur Brown remains one of the most left-field artists ever to enter the Top 10. Live performances of 1968's "Fire" found Brown bravely donning pyrotechnic headgear. For his troubles, this Pete Townshend co-production charted higher than any of the Who's singles. He settled in Austin for a spell, starting a house-painting business with late Mothers of Invention drummer Jimmy Carl Black. Now 72, Brown dusted off the "Crazy World" moniker last year and released *Zim Zam Zim*, a deeply tweaked romp through the colorful catacombs of psychedelic theatricality. — *Greg Beets*

MACHINE HEAD

Red 7, Tuesday 20

In a genre with so many hyphens and qualifiers, Machine Head has maintained commercialism without loyalty to any one subgenre. Across two decades, Rob Flynn's Oakland quartet has dipped into thrash, groove, death, and even nü-metal, grinding it all into a gritty paste. "An Evening With" means no opening acts getting in the way of the 20 years of catalog, including 2014's anniversary LP *Bloodstone & Diamonds*. — *Michael Toland*

FOOD

North Door, Wednesday 21

Epistrophy Arts opens its 17th season of importing the best improvised music to Austin with the entrancing, sometimes visceral electronic soundscapes of Food. Despite having formed in 1998, this duo of British saxophonist Iain Ballamy and Norwegian percussionist/electronics artist Thomas Strønen makes its U.S. debut on an eight-city tour with Austin the only Texas date. Visuals by British filmmaker Dave McKean and Norwegian photographer Knut Bry accompany. Latest ECM release of textural exploration, *Mercurial Balm*, gets a successor this spring. — *Jay Trachtenberg*

SOLE, CLEMITS, BLXPLTN

Holy Mountain, Wednesday 21

Denver's Sole and DJ Pain 1 steamroll controversial, stream of consciousness rap over 808-driven beats. Openly hostile toward capitalism as an institution, the MCs' anti-establishment lyrics will either reinforce, enlighten, or divide, with no gray area. ATX's Clemits delivers an unconventional AM analog nuance, reminiscent of Madiib, while upstart electro punk outfit BLXPLTN overpowers using a punishing, sociopolitical vigor. — *Kahron Spearman*

LERA LYNN

Cactus Cafe, Thursday 22

Houston-born, Athens, Ga.-bred, and current Nashville resident Lera Lynn blossomed into an Americana heartthrob with her 2014 release *The Avenues*, an album on many year-end best-of lists. Its dark dreamscapes and jazz-inflected heartaches perfectly match the 30-year-old's sultry voice — Patsy Cline meets Mazzy Star — in an enveloping haze. A recent Letterman appearance poised Lynn's profile for an even bigger 2015. Tennessee songwriting soulster Sam Lewis opens. — *Jim Caligiuri*

IN-STORES:

FRIDAY: Andy Hendrix, Petcatman, Orbis, Trailer Space, 7pm

SATURDAY: Kilnhouse (ex-Sungod), **Holy Money, Randall Cunningham Dance Company**, Trailer Space, 3pm
MONDAY: George Kinney's

Golden Dawn celebrates *Ugly Things* magazine release, Waterloo Records, 5pm

TUESDAY: Summer Salt, Capyac, the Khost, Trailer Space, 7pm
THURSDAY: User Error, Marriage, Boss Eye, Trailer Space, 7pm



Giraffage

SOUNDCHECK

BY **RAOUL HERNANDEZ**

A GIANT DOG, JOHN WESLEY COLEMAN

ABGB, Friday 16

Brewery taps Red River rawk.

ELVIS' 79TH BIRTHDAY

Cheer Up Charlie's, Friday 16

To some locals — Walker Lukens & TSA, Otis the Destroyer, etc. — the King (1/8/35 — 8/16/77) now sticks at 79 [sic] rather than 80.

SLAID CLEAVES/DANA FALCONBERRY

Cactus Cafe,

Friday 16/Saturday 17

Consecutive nights of he said/she said Austin song spellbinders.

SWEET SPIRIT, BOP ENGLISH

Hotel Vegas, Saturday 17

A Giant Dog and White Denim offshoots. See "Playback," p.56.

BRICKS IN THE WALL: THE SIGHTS & SOUND OF PINK FLOYD

Emo's, Saturday 17

Ninepiece ensemble with lasers, et al.

ELISA AMBROGIO, SPRAY PAINT, SHAWN MCMILLEN

Beerland, Sunday 18

Connecticut noise-rock trio Magik Markers frontwoman tops all-star noise-punk-psych bill.

DERAILERS

Little Longhorn Saloon, Sunday 18

C&W vets blow out Burnet road-house's doors.

CHURCH ON MONDAY

Continental Club Gallery, Monday 19

Alejandro Escovedo's recent backing band continues best ATX jazz residency ever.

GIRAFFAGE

Parish, Wednesday 21

Electro Bay Areal Charlie Yin debuts his new, larger-than-life live set.

FRIENDS OF TONY CAMPISE

Elephant Room, Thursday 22

Tribute to Austin sax great.

KENNY G

One World Theatre, Thursday 22

Erwin Center sell-out blows intimate, 7 & 9:30pm.

GO TO AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/calendar/music FOR MORE EVENTS AND INFO

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 12AM

LOS STRAITJACKETS
 W/DEKE DICKERSON 10PM

•FRIDAY, JAN. 16•
 H.H. 6:30PM **THE BLUES SPECIALISTS**

LIL CAP'N TRAVIS RAMSAY MIDWOOD
 12AM 10PM

•SATURDAY, JAN. 17
 MATINEE 3:30PM **REDD VOLKAERT**

12AM **ROSIE & THE RAMBLERS**

TWO TONS OF STEEL
 10PM

•SUNDAY, JAN. 18
 3:30PM MATINEE SHOW
PLANET CASPER w/ CASPER
 "SCRAPPY" JUD NEWCOMB, RON FLYNT
HEYBALE! \$10 9:45PM
 WITH REDD VOLKAERT & DALLAS WAYNE
THE WAGONEERS 7:30PM

•MONDAY, JAN. 19
 H.H. 6:30PM **DON LEADY & HIS ROCKIN' REVUE**
 FEATURING **JACK MONTESINOS**

JESSE DAYTON 10PM

•TUESDAY, JAN. 20
 H.H. 7PM **TONI PRICE BARFIELD** 10PM
 THE TYRANT OF TEXAS FUNK

•WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21•
 H.H. 6:30PM **HOT CLUB OF COWTOWN**

12AM **JAMES McMURTRY**
JON DEE GRAHAM 10:15PM
THE PAINTED REDSTARTS 9:30PM

★ ★ COMING SOON ★ ★

•THURSDAY, JAN. 22
 H.H. 6:30PM **SHOULDERS**
AMERICAN AQUARIUM 12AM
THE O'S 10PM

•FRIDAY, JAN. 23
 HH 6:30PM: **THE BLUES SPECIALISTS** 12AM
JOHN DOE
JESSE DAYTON 10PM

•SATURDAY, JAN. 24
 3:30PM MATINEE: **REDD VOLKAERT**
 12AM **MUDPHONIC**
ROXY ROCA 10PM

IN THE GALLERY ★ DOORS AT 8PM

•THURSDAY, JAN. 15•
 10:30PM **TAMECA JONES**
 8:30PM **LIV MUELLER**

•FRIDAY & SATURDAY, JAN. 16&17•
 10:30PM **MIKE FLANIGIN TRIO**
 FRI **JIMMIE VAUGHAN & FROSTY SMITH**
 SAT **DEREK O'BRIEN & GEORGE RAINS**

•FRIDAY, JAN. 16•
 8:30PM **ROBERT KRAFT TRIO**

•SATURDAY, JAN. 17•
 8:30PM **HILARY YORK**

•SUNDAY, JAN. 18•
 10:30PM **THE LOST COUNTS**
 8:30PM **JON DEE GRAHAM & FRIEND**

•MONDAY, JAN. 19
 10:30PM **MONEY CHICHA**
 8:30PM **CHURCH ON MONDAY**
 WITH ELIAS HASLANGER
 FEAT. DR. JAMES POLK & JAKE LANGLEY

•TUESDAY, JAN. 20•
 10:30PM **EPHRAIM OWENS EXPERIENCE**
 8:30PM **JAMES McMURTRY**

•WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21•
 10:30PM **SNIZZ & FRIENDS**
 8:30PM **MATT HUBBARD TRIO**

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 WED 1/21 **EPISTROPHY ARTS PRESENTS:** FOOD w/ Thomas Stronen (saxophones) and Iain Ballamy (drums/electronics) 8P
 THU 1/22 **STUMPTOWN CONCERTS PRESENTS:** THE NORTHERN LIGHTS TOUR FEATURING SWOOPE & CHRISTON GRAY WITH AJ MCQUEEN AND SIVION 8P
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FRI, JAN 16	6-8PM	BEN RODGERS 8-9PM DANCE LESSONS
	9:30PM	JASON ROBERTS
SAT, JAN 17	6-8PM	BEN RODGERS 8-9PM DANCE LESSONS
	9:30PM	DERAILERS
TUE, JAN 20	6-8PM	AMANDA
	8PM	HOWARD KALISH DON WALSER TRIBUTE
WED, JAN 21	6-8PM	KEN SIMPSON 8-9PM DANCE LESSONS
	9PM	JAKE PENROD

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OF LADY ANTEBELLUM WITH SPECIAL GUEST
COLBIE CAILLAT
SATURDAY, JANUARY 17 - PARAMOUNT
Proceeds from this event will support the
Dell Children's Medical Global Outreach mission trips.

TICKETS & INFO: AUSTINTHEATRE.ORG OR 512 474-1221

PARAMOUNT THEATRE • 713 CONGRESS AVE | STATESIDE AT THE PARAMOUNT • 719 CONGRESS AVE

PARKING FOR THESE SHOWS AVAILABLE AT ONE AMERICAN CENTER • 163 WEST 7TH STREET

CLUB LISTINGS

A ALL AGES VENUE R ROADSHOW ★ RECOMMENDED

THURSDAY 1/15

AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (6:00)
BADLANDS Lizzy Caroloke (9:00)
BAT BAR Brandon Hess (4:00); Treble Soul, Jo Hell (7:00)
BEERLAND Baby Robots, Raul's Royal Foot, Vast Majority, Art Acevedo (9:00) ★
BROKEN SPOKE Sam Bentley, Dance Lessons, Jesse Dayton (6:00)
C-BOY'S HEART & SOUL Paul Oscher (6:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Jimmy Willden (5:30); Draught Horse Ramblers, Patty David (7:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH El Tule (6:30) A

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH The Jankies (6:30) A

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Brett Hauser, Shane Smith & the Saints (9:00)

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Austin Party Band (9:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB the Ugly Beats, Los Straitjackets w/ Deke Dickerson (10:00) ★R

CONTINENTAL CLUB GALLERY Liv Mueller, Tameca Jones (8:30)

DIRTY DOG BAR Witness the Recreant, Shadow of Whales, Ohanna, Neverbloom, Memories in Broken Glass, Lions & Tigers, Hitting Subset, Fire From the Gods, Bonny the Jyant, Blood of an Outlaw, Adakain (5:00) B

DIZZY ROOSTER Phil Luna (4:30), Sonny Wolf (9:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Albert & Gage

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Nick Connolly (7:00) A

ROAD SHOWS

THU 1/15

Deke Dickerson, Los Straitjackets, Continental Club
Adakain, Bonny the Jyant, Memories in Broken Glass, Witness the Recreant, Dirty Dog Bar
Capyac, Guidance, Empire Control Room
Space State, De Palma, Holy Mountain
Cleopatra Degher, Lamberts
The Soundtrack Series, the North Door
Sealion, Bummer Vacation, Red 7
Max Stalling, Saxon Pub
The Rio Grande, Spider House Ballroom
Hamell on Trial, Strange Brew Lounge Side
Supermoon, Stubb's
James Fella, Trailer Space Records
Anthony Ray Wright, the White Horse

FRI 1/16

Ben Howard, Willy Mason, Austin Music Hall
Diminished, Beerland
Blue Healer, Cheatham Street Warehouse
Adrenal Asphyxia, An Army at Dawn, Aureoran, Band Nerd Music, Calamity Jane, Hands Held Hi, PigWeed, Taking on Poseidon, the Valley, Dirty Dog Bar
Next 2 the Tracks, the Driskill Hotel
Pelican Johnny, Mohawk
Honey Island Swamp Band, Parish
Ottis Coleman Band, Poodie's Hilltop Roadhouse
Brick Floyd, the Roost
Mighty Renegades, Rumi's Tavern

Cleopatra Degher, Strange Brew Lounge Side
Coley McCebe, Stubb's
Pi, Swan Dive
Petcatman, Trailer Space Records

SAT 1/17

New Magnetic North, the Reckoning, Dirty Dog Bar
Bricks in the Wall, Emo's
For Her & the Snow, End of an Ear
In the Whale, Holy Mountain
Stone Machine Electric, the Lost Well
Hillary Scott, Colbie Caillat, Paramount Theatre
Flawless Victory, Red 7
Stockyard Playboys, the Roost
Gidi Agbeko & the Shrine, Emman Legrand & the African Rhythmix, the Sahara Lounge
Mason Reed, Saxon Pub
Marc Broussard, Stubb's
Kilnhouse, Holy Money, Randall Cunningham Dance Company, Trailer Space Records

SUN 1/18

Engelbert Humperdink, ACL Live at the Moody Theater
Elisa Ambrogio, Nathan Bowles, Beerland
The Others, Gypsy, Austin Burns, the Belmont
Midge Ure, Cactus Cafe
Leonhardt, Hole in the Wall
The Appleseed Cast, Dreamtiger, Football Etc., Holy Mountain
In Rooms, Western Front, Hotel Vegas
Strangefiction, Mohawk
Urban Pioneers, Ray Benson's Rattle Inn
Jargurtha, the Grundles, Red 7

MON 1/19

The Lizard Man, Holy Mountain

TUE 1/20

Baby Nelson & the Philistines, Kurraka, Beerland
Larkin Poe, Cactus Cafe
Coyotes, Carousel Lounge
American Aquarium, Cheatham Street Warehouse
Machine Head, Red 7
Bonnie & Clydes, Saxon Pub
Arthur Brown, Strange Brew Lounge Side
Summer Salt, Capyac, Khost, Trailer Space Records

WED 1/21

Sole, Holy Mountain
Next 2 the Tracks, Lucky Lounge
FOOD, the North Door
Hatch, One-2-One Bar
Giraffage, Spazzkid, Parish
The Blueprint, Jonny Craig, Kyle Lucas, Down With Webster, Red 7
Battling Giants, Red 7
Triumph Over Shipwreck, the Scoot Inn
Bahamas, Field Report, Stubb's

THU 1/22

Lera Lynn, Cactus Cafe
American Aquarium, the O's, Continental Club
Solid Gold, Flamingo Cantina
Star Parks, Holy Mountain
Freezepop, Mohawk
Swoope, Christon Gray, A.J. McQueen, Sivion, the North Door
Kenny G, One World Theatre
Waka Winter Classic, Parish
Slow Magic, Dark Rooms, Red 7
Cruel Hand, Angel Du\$t, the Beautiful Ones, Red 7
Apex, the Scoot Inn
Badfish, Shrub, Stubb's
Anthony Ray Wright, the White Horse

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND PRINTED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS. ACTS ARE LISTED CHRONOLOGICALLY. SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE, SO CALL CLUBS TO CONFIRM LINEUPS. START TIMES ARE PROVIDED WHERE KNOWN AND ARE PM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS: MUSIC LISTINGS DEADLINE IS MONDAY MORNINGS, 9AM, FOR THAT WEEK'S ISSUE, PUBLISHED ON THURSDAY. PLEASE INDICATE ROADSHOWS AND RESIDENCIES. SEND VENUE NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, ACTS, AND START TIMES TO: CLUB LISTINGS, PO BOX 49066, AUSTIN, TX 78765; FAX, 458-6910; PHONE, 512/454-5766 X159; EMAIL, clubs@austinchronicle.com. AUSTIN BANDS: WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU. IF YOU HAVEN'T REGISTERED AND UPLOADED YOUR MP3S TO THE MUSICIANS REGISTER, GO TO AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/REGISTER. ANYWHERE YOUR BAND IS MENTIONED, YOUR MUSIC WILL BE FEATURED.



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The WHITE HORSE 5th & Comal

THU 1*15
ANTHONY RAY WRIGHT 8P
JENNY & THE CORNPONES 10P
LEO RONDEAU 12A

FRI 1*16
CAJUN DANCE LESSONS W/MARLON & BETH 7P
OKIE WEISS ZYDECO BAND 8P
HORSE OPERA 10P
THEM DUQUAINES 12A

SAT 1*17
2STEP LESSONS W/2 LEFT FOOT'S 7P
DAVE INSLEY & CARELESS SMOKERS 8P
LUCKY TUBB 10P
BEN BALLINGER 11P
MRS. GLASS 12A

SUN 1*18
CONJUNTO LOS PINKYS 5P
THE LOVE LEIGHS 8P
SOUL SUPPORTERS 11P

MON 1*19
EMILIE CLEPPER & OKIE WEISS 8P
JIM STRINGER & HIS AM. BAND 10P
ROSIE & THE RAMBLERS 12A

TUE 1*20
MATT DOWNING'S BLUEGRASS EXPLOSION 8P
DEVIN JAKE 10P
EMILY HERRING 12A

WED 1*21
SWING DANCE LESSONS W/4 ON THE FLOOR 7P
THRIFT SET ORCHESTRA 8P
MAYUEX & BROUSSARD 10P
CARSON MCHONE 12A

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Thu, Jan 15
PATRICE PIKE 8:00 - \$10
MAX STALLING 10:00 - \$10
JEREMY MCBEE 12:00 - \$5

Fri, Jan 16
PAUL CAUTHEN 9:00 - \$10
HORSESHOES & HAND GRENADES 10:00 - \$5
DENNY FREEMAN 6:00 - NO COVER HAPPY HOUR

Sat, Jan 17
HECTOR WARD 8:00 - \$10
GUY FORSYTH 10:00 - \$10/\$15
MISSY IZZY COX 12:00 - \$5
Two Separate Shows
FOLK UKE 6:00 - \$10 **MASON REED** 10:00 - \$5

Sun, Jan 18
The Resentments
John Gaar 5:30 - NO COVER
Leslie Kafka 3:00 - \$5
Derrick Davis Band 10:00 - \$5

Mon, Jan 19
LONELYLAND 8:30 - \$10
BRUCE HUGHES 6:00 - NO COVER HAPPY HOUR BIRTHDAY SHOW
THE LEAVERS 10:00 - \$5

Tue, Jan 20
Robert Cline Jr. & George DeVore 10:00 - \$5
London & David 8:00 - \$5
Bonnie & The Clydes 12:00 - \$5
David Grissom 6:00 - NO COVER HAPPY HOUR

Wed, Jan 21
THE WHISKEY SISTERS 9:00 - \$10/\$12
Dustin Prinz 11:00 - \$5
JOHNNY NICHOLAS 6:00 - NO COVER Happy Hour

James McMurtry - Jan 23
Micky & The Motorcars - Jan 24
Carolyn Wonderland - Jan 31

f FOLLOW US FOR DAILY TICKET GIVEAWAYS **t**

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DANA FALCONBERRY
With ADAM TORRES



SUN. JAN. 18
MIDGE URE
of ULTRAVOX



TUE. JAN. 20
LARKIN POE



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FRIDAY - JAN/16
TEXAS KGB

SATURDAY - JAN/17
SNAKEBOY JOHNSON

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ROCKIN' STEVE KARAOKE

FRIDAY - JAN/23 **BOMB SQUAD**

SATURDAY - JAN/24
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ONE-2-ONE
LOCAL LIVE MUSIC



THU. JANUARY 15
MATTHEW ROBINSON & THE JELLY KINGS 6PM
JAYME IVISON 9:30PM
JULIE NOLEN 9:30PM
SHAWN NELSON 11PM

FRI. JANUARY 16
RAY PRIM BAND *And*
DREW DAVIS BAND 7:30PM
THE DEER 11:30PM

SAT. JANUARY 17
YAYO 9PM **ROBBIN THE WIND** 9PM
DRE MAZZENGA 9:45PM
THE NAKED MAJAS 10:45PM
THE WARPLANES 11PM

SUN. JANUARY 18
SHELLEY KING'S
"BUILDING A FIRE" VIDEO RELEASE. BENEFITING H.O.M.E. 5PM
THE JOHN BUSH BAND DOSE OF VARIETY & POTLUCK 8PM

MON. JANUARY 19
THE 80H PROJECT
(FORMERLY DAHEBEGEBEES) *Every Monday* 9PM
CJ EDWARDS 11PM

TUE. JANUARY 20
MALIA GRACE 6:30PM
THE DRAKES *Every Tuesday* 8PM
Super Soul Tuesdays WITH **GARRETT LEBEAU** 10:30PM

WED. JANUARY 21
WIMPS Happy Hour 6PM
BLACK RED BLACK *Every Wednesday* 8:30PM
HATCH 10:30PM

125 FREE PARKING SPACES
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FROM THURSDAY

EDGE OF TOWN SALOON & GRILL Rockin' Stevie

ELEPHANT ROOM Blue Moon Quartet (6:00), Bruce Saunders Quintet (9:30)

EMPIRE CONTROL ROOM Darío Aravena, Guidance, Spindlgraph, Capyac, DJ Charley (9:00) **R**

FLAMINGO CANTINA Mama K. & the Shades

FRIENDS Blues in the Night (4:00); Kevin & the Krawlers, Conquistadors (7:30)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON The Tonkers (6:00), Alvin Crow (9:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Beyond Therapy (6:30)

HOLE IN THE WALL Simon Flory, Huck Johnson & the Jack Knives

HOLY MOUNTAIN De Palma, Space State, Yuma, Cosms (9:00) **R**

LAMBERTS Cleopatra Degher, Girl Pilot (10:00) **R**

MERCER STREET DANCEHALL Doug Moreland & the Flying Armadillos (7:30)

MOHAWK Ex-Cousins, We'll Go Machete, Boss Battle (9:00)

NEWORLELI Jenifer Jackson & Denim Bridge

THE NOOK Ryan Murphy (5:00), Clint Manning Trio (8:30)

THE NORTH DOOR Bedpost Confessions, the Soundtrack Series, Ejede, Myrriah Gossett, Dana Rossi, Andy Campbell (7:00) **R**

ONE-2-ONE BAR Matthew Robinson & the Jelly Kings (6:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Johnson (8:30), Huck Johnson & the Jack Knives (10:30) **A**

RAY BENSON'S RATTLE INN Emmy Villareal, Chansons et Soûlards (10:00)

RED 7 Botany, Bummer Vacation, Sealion (9:00) **R**

RILEY'S TAVERN Big Red Drum (9:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE King V Blues, Brass Buckle, Bob Appel (7:00)

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Robin Wiley

SAXON PUB Eightysixed (6:00), Patrice Pike, Max Stalling, Jeremy McBee (8:00) **R**

THE SCOOT INN OMGWTFBBQ, We Are the Asteroid, Bellringer (9:00)

SPEAKEASY Bad Marmot (10:00)

SPIDER HOUSE BALLROOM Nominee, the Rio Grande, Buenos Diaz (10:00) **R**

STARLAND LIVE Texas KGB

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE Hamell on Trial, Anthony da Costa (8:00) **A R A**

STUBB'S Supermoon, Jonathan Fox (8:00) **R**

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Palacios Brothers (8:30)

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS James Fella (7:00) **R A**

TRIPLE CROWN The Ledbetter (6:00); Conway the Whale, Drive on Mak, the Questions (9:00)

THE WHITE HORSE Anthony Ray Wright, Jenny & the Corn Ponies, Leo Rondeau (8:00) **R**

Z'TEJAS The Brew (6:00)

FRIDAY 1/16

AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (6:00)

AMPED AUSTIN May Sun & Mojo House (8:00)

AUSTIN BEER GARDEN BREWING CO. John Wesley Coleman, A Giant Dog (9:00)

AUSTIN MUSIC HALL Wily Mason, Ben Howard (8:00) **A R A**

BAT BAR Jo Hell (4:00), Boswell (7:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Davey Arwine (7:00), Ladd Smith (10:30)

BEERLAND The Monk & Id, Diminished, Flesh Hoarder (9:00) **R**

BRIARCLIFF BISTRO Blue Steel w/ Leslie Redden (8:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Ben Rodgers, Dance Lessons, Jason Roberts (6:00)

BUDDY'S PLACE Son Geezinslaw, Glenn Collins (8:00)

C-BOY'S HEART & SOUL Jitterbug Vipers (6:30), Barfield (10:00)

CACTUS CAFE Slaid Cleaves (8:30) **A R**

THE CAPITAL GRILLE Ryan Davis (6:30)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Poor Yorick, Melissa Bryan, Mavis Beacons, Superette (7:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Milkdrive (6:30) **A**

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Blackbird 3 (6:30) **A**

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Canvas People, Blue Healer (9:00) **R**

CHEER UP CHARLIE'S Elvis' 79th Birthday w/ White Bronco, Slomo Drags, BUHU, Otis the Destroyer, Walker Lukens & TSA (8:00) **A**

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Sean Evan (2:00); Mike Valliere, Guilty Pleasures (5:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB The Blues Specialists (6:30), Ramsay Midwood, Li'l Cap'n Travis (10:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB GALLERY Robert Kraft Trio, Mike Flanigin Trio (8:30)

CU-29 Ron & Sam (10:00)

DIRTY DOG BAR Versa Nova, the Valley, Taking on Poseidon, PigWeed, Minds & Machines, Locket, Hands Held Hi, Fire From the Gods, Calamity Jane, Bury the Rod, Band Nerd Music, Aureorean, An Army at Dawn, Adrenal Asphyxia (5:00) **R**

DIZZY ROOSTER Aaron Navarro (5:00); Sean Evan & His Very Handsome Band (8:30)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill Bar: Next 2 the Tracks (9:00) **R**

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Tony Taboada Trio (8:00) **A**

EDGE OF TOWN SALOON & GRILL Texas KGB

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Mariachi Caballeros (8:00) **A**, DJ Leslie Cavazos (8:30) **A**

ELEPHANT ROOM Trip Trio w/ Lissa Hattersley (6:00), James Polk & Centerpeace (9:30)

ELYSIUM Madonna vs. Lady Gaga Dance Party (9:30)

EMPIRE CONTROL ROOM Discos Peligrosa Launch w/ Money Chicha, Kiko Villamizar (8:00) **A**

FRIENDS The Southsiders (4:00); Adrian Myers (7:30)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Poi Pounders (6:00), Carl Hutchens (9:00)

CHRIS BEIRNE AND THE HOT PLATES
10 SONGS BY MERLE AT
OUR MERLE HAGGARD PARTY
RATTLESNAKE INN
FRI. JAN 16 8:30PM

GÜERO'S TACO BAR The Bob Fuentes Show (6:30)

HIGH ROAD ON DAWSON Dolly Parton Tribute w/ Teri Joyce, Lisa Pankratz, Chris Gage, Brad Fordham, Andrew Nafziger, Kullen Fuchs, Christine Albert, Meg Bodi, Dave Gonzalez, Dan Hardick, Devin Jake, Teri Joyce, Kathryn Legendre, Brennen Leigh, Brigitte London, Martha Merriell, Susanna Van Tassel, Roger Wallace (7:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Jeff Brown, the Korkus, Casual Interference

HOLY MOUNTAIN Patch, Alex Napping, Ruby Jane

HOTEL VEGAS Cold Lampin' Old School Hip Hop (9:00)

IRON CACTUS NORTH David Massey

KINGDOM NIGHTCLUB Andrew Parsons (10:00)

THE LOST WELL Woodgrain, Bridge Farmers, the Shut Ups

LUX Jake Asbury (4:00), the Coordinates (7:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (7:00) **A**

MERCER STREET DANCEHALL Shawn Nelson (8:30)

MOHAWK Right On Happy Hour (5:00), Pelican Johnny, Blynd Birds, the Sideshow Tragedy, the Sweet Nuthin' (9:00) **R**

NEWORLELI Melinda Brooks, Jeanne Kyser

THE NOOK Raul Adrian Ochoa (5:00), Clint Manning (8:30)

ONE-2-ONE BAR Ray Prim w/ Drew Davis Band (7:30)

PARISH Boss Street Brass Band, Honey Island Swamp Band (8:00) **R**

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Ru Coleman (4:00) **A**, Otis Coleman Band, Red Lady (8:00) **R A**

RED 7 Wil Cope, Lincoln Durham (9:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Joel Hofmann Band (9:00)

THE ROOST Pink Floyd Tribute w/ Brick Floyd **R**

RUMI'S TAVERN Mighty Renegades (8:00) **R**

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Manteca Beat, Como Las Movies, Bamako Airlines (8:00)

SAXON PUB Denny Freeman (6:00), Paul Cauthe, Horseshoes & Hand Grenades (9:00)

THE SCOOT INN John Schooley, Eve & the Exiles (9:00)

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS NORTH Lixbox (9:00)

STARLAND LIVE Moby Dick

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE Cleopatra Degher, the Carper Family, Ryan Montbleau (6:00) **R A**

STUBB'S Coley McCabe, Thom Shepherd, Drew Fish (9:00) **R**

SWAN DIVE On Delay, the Halfways, Pi **R**

TAVERN ON MAIN The Merles (8:30)

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Brian Wolfe (4:00), Sonny Wolf (8:30)

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS Orbis, Petcatman, Andy Hendrix (7:00) **R A**

TRIPLE CROWN Wasted Youth (6:00); Ashleigh Stone, LifeKite, Pete Martin (10:00)

VOODOO ROOM Scott Simon Project (7:00)

WATER TROUGH AT LONE STAR COURT Colt Landon Baker (9:00)

THE WHITE HORSE Cajun Dance Lessons, Okie Weiss, Horse Opera, Them Duquaines (7:00)

The Skylark Lounge

Every Thurs & Fri Margaret Wright 6-8

Soul Man Sam & The Brothers 9 Jan 16

Sat Jan 17 Andrea Dawson 10 pm

Hosea Hargrove 830 pm Thur Jan 22

Fri Jan 23 Matt Robinson 9 pm

The Conquistadors 10 pm Sat Jan 24

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STUBB'S

SAT JAN 31

RAILROAD EARTH
WINTER TOUR 2015

WITH SHOOK TWINS

THU FEB 5

GUSTER

WITH KISHI BASHI

FRI FEB 13

LOTUS
THE GILDED AGE TOUR

WITH KUNG FU

FRI FEB 27

Big Gigantic

ON SALE FRI JAN 16 @10AM

SAT MAR 7

COLD WAR KIDS

WITH ELLIOT MOSS

THU APR 23

MATT AND KIM
TOUR APRIL-MAY 2015

ON SALE FRI JAN 16 @10AM

IN THE CLUB

THU JAN 15 DOORS 8PM
JONATHAN FOX BAND
WITH SUPERMOON
(FORMERLY PAUL BANKS & THE CAROUSELS)

FRI JAN 16 DOORS 9PM
THE DREW FISH BAND
WITH THOM SHEPHERD AND COLEY MCCABE

SAT JAN 17 DOORS 8PM
MARC BROUSSARD
WITH REED TURNER

WED JAN 21 DOORS 8PM
BAHAMAS
WITH FIELD REPORT

THU JAN 22 DOORS 8PM
BADFISH A TRIBUTE TO SUBLIME
40 OZ TO FREEDOM TOUR
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS SHRUB

SAT JAN 24 DOORS 9PM
SAINT MOTEL WITH THE MOTH AND THE FLAME

WED JAN 28 DOORS 8PM
KATE VOEGELE
WITH LEROY SANCHEZ

THU JAN 29 DOORS 8PM
JOSH HOYER & THE SHADOWBOXERS

FRI JAN 30 DOORS 9PM
WHITE ARROWS
WITH CHAPPO

SAT JAN 31 DOORS 10PM
THE BLACK CADILLACS
WITH QUAKER CITY NIGHT HAWKS

THU FEB 5 DOORS 10PM
SHAPESCENES

FRI FEB 6 DOORS 9PM
THE ROCKETBOYS

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JANUARY 17 THE SIGHT AND SOUND OF PINK FLOYD:
BRICKS IN THE WALL

JANUARY 24 **SAOSIN**
FT. ANTHONY GREEN W/ SOUVENIRS, SEIZURES

JANUARY 28 **TESLA**
W/ SLEDD & NOMARA

JANUARY 31 **GREGORY ALAN ISAKOV**

FEBRUARY 15 **ECHOSMITH**
W/ THE COLOURIST

FEBRUARY 20 **TAKING BACK SUNDAY**
W/ LETLIVE. AND THE MENZINGERS

MARCH 6 SIMON POSFORD PRESENTS THE SHPONGLETRON 3.1:
SHPONGLE

APRIL 2 **BROODS**
W/ ERIK HASSLE

APRIL 28 **THE KOOKS**
TICKETS ON-SALE THIS FRIDAY AT 10AM!

MAY 1 **ZAPPA PLAYS ZAPPA**

MAY 2 **KODALINE**

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MON-FRI: 5-7PM ★ SAT: 3-7PM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

AFROFREQUE 10PM
PAUL OSCHER 6:30PM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16 & SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

BARFIELD, THE TYRANT OF TX FUNK 10PM
Friday: **JITTERBUG VIPERS** 6:30PM

SUN., JANUARY 18

STAR OF TEXAS TATTOO CONVENTION AFTERPARTY WITH **PURE LUCK** 11PM
RODNEY (THE PIE GUY) 10PM
DUSTY DJ 9PM & 12AM

MONDAY, JANUARY 19

PRESTO CHANGO 6:30 & 10:30PM

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

REY ARTEAGA 10PM
CLASSIC CUBAN DANCE MUSIC

8 1/2 SOUVENIRS! 6:30PM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

ROXY ROCA 10PM

MALFORD MILLIGAN 6:30PM
With **DAVE SEEBREE** And **JOHN GAAR**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

RED YOUNG B-3 TRIO 10PM
PAUL OSCHER 6:30PM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23 & SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

Friday: **LAZY LESTER** 12AM
MIKE FARRIS 10PM
Saturday: **THE BELFURIES** 12AM
LAZY LESTER 10PM

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MO 1/19	LUCAS EASON & PANHANDLERS
TU 1/20	CANVAS PEOPLE AND REFRAIN
WE 1/21	AMERICAN AQUARIUM AND BLUE WATER HIGHWAY
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GRACE PETTIS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

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SATURDAY 1/17

AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (6:00)

AMPED AUSTIN Jagged Luck (8:00), Jagged Luck (8:00)

AUSTIN BEER GARDEN BREWING CO. Clyde & Clem's Whiskey Business, Harvest Thieves (9:00)

BARTON CREEK FARMERS MARKET Jimmy Joe Natoli, the Better Halves, Woolly (9:00am) Ⓐ

BAT BAR Nathan Vanderford (4:00), the Coordinates (7:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Eric Bettencourt (9:30)

BEERLAND Party Dress, Concrete Robot, Aultier, Party Dress (9:00)

THE BELMONT Subscene Indie Disco (9:30)

BROKEN SPOKE Ben Rodgers, Dance Lessons, the Derailers (6:00)

C-BOY'S HEART & SOUL Barfield (10:00)

CACTUS CAFE Dana Falconberry (8:00) Ⓐ

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Ted Roddy, Ice Cold Singles, Tontine (6:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Vitapaloza w/ Austin Steamers (6:30) Ⓐ

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Seu Jacinto (6:30) Ⓐ

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Lucas Eason & the Panhandlers, Mike & the Moonpies (9:00)

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Chris Ray (2:00); Tish & Misbehavin' (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Redd Volkaert (3:30), Two Tons of Steel, Rosie & the Ramblers (10:00) Ⓐ

CONTINENTAL CLUB GALLERY Hilary York, Mike Flanigin Trio (8:30)

CU-29 Fred Spence Duo (10:00)

DIRTY DOG BAR Beyond Fallen Shadows, the Reckoning, New Magnetic North (8:00) Ⓐ

DIZZY ROOSTER Mike Valliere (5:00); the Goodz (8:30)

DONN'S DEPOT Danny Britt & Red Dawg

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin (8:00) Ⓐ

EDGE OF TOWN SALOON & GRILL SnakeBoy Johnson

ELEPHANT ROOM Ephraim Owens Quintet (9:30)

EMO'S Bricks in the Wall: Sights & Sound of Pink Floyd (8:00) ⒶⒷⒸ

END OF AN EAR For Her & the Snow (6:00) Ⓐ

FRIENDS Sam Pace & the Gilded Grit (4:00); J.T. Coldfire, DJ Inferno (7:30)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Li'l Mikey & the Soda Jerks (6:00), Two Hoots & a Holler (9:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Jim Stringer (2:30); Tipicos de Cuba (6:30)

HANOVERS Scottish Thunder

HOLE IN THE WALL Silas Lowe, the Gravy Brothers, Jenny Parrot's Greatest Hits

HOLY MOUNTAIN Magnet School, the Blind Pets, In the Whale, Amplified Heat (9:00) Ⓐ

HOTEL VEGAS Sounds del Mar, Bop English, Sweet Spirit (9:00) Ⓐ

LAMBERTS Kevin Lovejoy Trio (7:00); The Mafia, Serafia, Latasha Lee & the Black Ties (9:30) Ⓐ

LONE STAR GRILLE London & David (7:00)

THE LOST WELL Greenbeard, Stone Machine Electric, Curses, Sabbath Crow Ⓐ

LUX James Delgado (4:00), Boswell (7:00)

MOHAWK Comforter, Eyelid Kid, Good Talk, Grape St. (9:00)

NEWORLDELI Marilyn Rucker

THE NOOK Fred Spence (5:00), Scott Simon Project (8:30)

THE NORTH DOOR David Bowie vs. Queen w/ School of Rock (2:30), Libido Torpedo, Think Lizzy (9:30)

ONE-2-ONE BAR Yayo, Untold Sky, Robbin the Wind, Dre Mazzenga, Naked Maja, Warplanes (7:00)

PARAMOUNT THEATRE Colbie Caillat, Hillary Scott (8:00) ⒶⒷ

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Alex Culbreth (6:00); Charlie Harrison, Lost Sounds of Honky Tonk (8:00) Ⓐ

RED 7 Crudo Fest w/ the MexFats, Commoners, Prions, SBS, Flawless Victory (9:00) Ⓐ

RILEY'S TAVERN Sean Castillo & the Hubcaps (9:00)

THE ROOST Warren Hood, Stockyard Playboys Ⓐ

RUMI'S TAVERN Kale Stephens Trio (9:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Gidi Agbeko & the Shrine, Emman Legrand & the African Rhythmix, Zoumoundchi (8:30) Ⓐ

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Kevin Ahart

SAXON PUB Mason Reed (3:00); Folk Uke (6:00); Hector Ward & the Big Time, Guy Forsyth, Miss Lavelle White (8:00) Ⓐ

THE SCOOT INN Free Jams Deehuck (9:00)

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS CEDAR PARK LC Rocks (9:30)

SPIDER HOUSE BALLROOM Club Bang Bang (8:00)

STARLAND LIVE Known Alternative

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE **SIDE** Jungle Jill (10:00am); Groundwork Ukulele, Michael Shay CD Release, Milkdrive, the South Austin Moonlighters, Temple Underground (3:00) Ⓐ

STUBB'S Reed Turner, Marc Broussard (8:00) Ⓐ

SWAN DIVE Fair City Fire, Waking Fable, Regal Dreamers

TAVERN ON MAIN Texas Never Whispers (8:30)

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Brian Wolfe (4:00), Mark Chandler (8:30)

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS Randall Cunningham Dance Company, Holy Money, Kilnhouse (3:00) ⒶⒷ

VOODOO ROOM Jake Asbury (7:00)

WATER TROUGH AT LONE STAR COURT Candy Colburn (9:00)

THE WHITE HORSE 2-Step Lessons, Dave Insley's Careless Smokers, Ben Ballinger, Mrs. Glass (7:00)

SUNDAY 1/18

ACL LIVE AT THE MOODY THEATER Engelbert Humperdink (6:30) Ⓐ

AUSTIN BEER GARDEN BREWING CO. Mike Barfield & Horton Brothers (4:00)

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Open Mic (7:00)

BAT BAR Marcus Rios (4:00); Selfless Band, Sonny Wolf (7:00)

BB ROVERS Open Mic (7:00) Ⓐ

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tune Session, Joe Gee (9:00)

BEERLAND Shawn McMillen, Nathan Bowles, Spray Paint, Elisa Ambrogio (9:00) ⒶⒷ

THE BELMONT EEF Benefit, U18 Bands: More Than Ghosts, Blue Tongue, Austin Burns, Gypsy, Tech 12, Bluster in the Open, Black Apples, Empire, the Others, Room 24 (noon) ⒶⒷ

C-BOY'S HEART & SOUL Star of Texas Tattoo Convention Afterparty w/ Rodney (The Pie Guy), Pure Luck, Dusty DJ (9:00)

CACTUS CAFE Midge Ure (8:30) ⒶⒷⒸ

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Show & Tellers (6:30) Ⓐ

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Own Your Own Universe Benefit w/ Terri Hendrix, Lloyd Maines, Ashleigh Stone, Adam Carroll & Chris Carroll, Zack Kibodeaux & Greg Essington, Willow Creek Band (2:00)

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BOB APPEL 10:30P

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SAT 17 THE SHRINE 8:30P EMMAN LEGRAND AND
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ZOOMOUNTCHI 12A

SUN 18 MARACATU TEXAS 8P MENTE CLARA 9:30P

MON 19 JONATHAN DOYLE SWINGTET 9:30P

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MONDAY, JANUARY 19 • 6:30PM
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TUESDAY, JANUARY 20 • 7PM
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THE PEACEMAKERS 10PM

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Thu 1/15	Hamell on Trial 8p Anthony da Costa 10p
Fri 1/16	Cleopatra Degher 6p The Carper Family 8p Ryan Montbleau 10p
Sat 1/17	Jungle Jill (kids show) 10a Groundwork Workshop 3p Michael Shay 5p Milk Drive 7p S. Austin Moonlighters 9p Temple Underground 11:30p
Sun 1/18	Gospel Brunch 11a-1p George Ensle 2p Jim Scarborough 4p Hot Nut Riveters 6p New Soul 8p Open Mic Hosted by Kacy Crowley 10p
Mon 1/19	Song Swap 6p Matt the Electrician 8p Nicks House Band 10p
Tue 1/20	DURAWA 6p Arthur Brown 8p Lounge Side Jazz Sessions 10p
Wed 1/21	Chris Gage 6p AMF Panel 7p Wrenfro 9:30p

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NEWS | ARTS & CULTURE | FOOD | SCREENS | **MUSIC**

FROM SUNDAY

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Mike Valliere (5:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Planet Casper (3:00); The Wagoneers, Heybale! (7:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB GALLERY Jon Dee Graham, Dupree (10:30)
COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (5:00) 
DIZZY ROOSTER Sonny Wolf (9:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura (7:00) 
EL SOL Y LA LUNA John Arthur Martinez & Tejas (8:00) 
ELEPHANT ROOM Kirk Covington (9:30)
EMPIRE CONTROL ROOM DJ Manny, DJ B-Brown, Ditch Witch, ((Sounder)), Residual Kid (9:00)
FRIENDS J.T. Coldfire (5:30), Blues Jam (9:30)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Chicken Shit Bingo w/ the Derailers (4:00) 
GREEN PASTURES RESTAURANT Jacques Vilmain (11:00am) 
GÜERO'S TACO BAR Mitch Webb & the Swindles (3:00)
HOLE IN THE WALL The Haberdashers, Leonhardt 
HOLY MOUNTAIN Football Etc., Dreamtiger, the Appleseed Cast (8:00) 
HOTEL VEGAS Western Front, In Rooms, Magia Negra (9:00) 
HOUSE WINE Justin Landers (6:00)
LAMBERTS Ephraim Owens & Kevin Lovejoy (7:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Gospel Brunch: The Amazing Grace (noon) 
MOHAWK Strangefiction, Shapescenes (9:00) 
THE NORTH DOOR David Bowie vs. Queen w/ School of Rock (2:30)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz (11:00am) 
THE OASIS The Brew (7:00) 
ONE-2-ONE BAR H.O.M.E. Benefit, Shelley King Video Release (5:00), John Bush Variety Show & Potluck (5:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Carl Hutchens (4:00); Song Swap w/ Jon Napier, Emilie Clepper (8:00) 
RAY BENSON'S RATTLE INN Anniversary w/ Junkyard Mongrels, Patrick's Beard & the Rusty Razors, Rock Bottom String Band, Urban Pioneers (3:00) 
RED 7 Bluntgutter, Circle Curse, the Grundles, the Hormones, Jargurtha (9:00) 
RUMI'S TAVERN Jennifer B. & the Groove Kings w/ Van Wilks (3:00)
THE SAHARA LOUNGE Maracatu Texas, Mente Clara (8:00)
SAXON PUB Leslie Krafka (3:00), John Gaar, the Resentments (5:30), Derrick Davis (10:30)
STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE Purgatory Players (11:00am) 
 George Ensle, Jim Scarborough (2:00); Hot Nut Riveters, New Soul Sessions, Open Mic w/ Kacy Crowley (6:00) 
STUBB'S Gospel Silvertones (11:00am)
TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic
THE WHITE HORSE Conjunto Los Pinkys (5:00); the Love Leighs, the Soul Supporters (9:00)

Z'TEJAS Alex Ruiz Flamenco Night (6:00)
ZED'S Jeff Lofton (1:00)

MONDAY 1/19

ACL LIVE AT THE MOODY THEATER Young Texans w/ Josh Abbott (7:00)
BAT BAR Jake Asbury, Spectra (7:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Open Mic w/ Johnny Fargo (8:00)
BEERLAND Rock & Roll Karaoke (9:00)
THE BLACKHEART Shane Cooley & the Lucky Kings (11:00)
BUNGALOW Chelsea Barbo (7:00)
C-BOY'S HEART & SOUL Presto Chango (10:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Refrain, Canvas People (9:00)
CHEZ ZEE Rich Demarco (6:30) 
CHUGGIN' MONKEY Chris Ray (5:00), Mike V. & the Lone Star Rejects (9:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Don Leady & his Rockin' Revue w/ Jack Montesinos (6:30), Jesse Dayton (10:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB GALLERY Church on Monday, Money Chicha (8:30) 
DIZZY ROOSTER Red Lady (9:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura (7:00) 
ELEPHANT ROOM Jitterbug Vipers (6:00), Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (9:30)
FIREHOUSE LOUNGE Avi Hartman (5:00)

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FRIENDS Dave Scher Trio (6:30), Eric Tessmer (9:30)

THE HIGBALL MatchMaker Band, the Nightowls (9:00)

HOLY MOUNTAIN The Lizard Man (9:00) **A**

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LUX James Delgado (8:00)

MIDWAY FIELD HOUSE Antone's Blue Monday Band w/ Derek O'Brien, Riley Osbourn (6:00)

MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John Wilson **A**

NASTY'S DJ Mel

NEWORLDELI Open Mic w/ Hudson James

ONE-2-ONE BAR 80H Project, C.J. Edwards (9:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Texas Music w/ George Ensle, Danny Santos (6:30) **A**

RAY BENSON'S RATTLE INN Dance Lessons, Evan Christian (8:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Jonathan Doyle Swingtet (9:30)

SAXON PUB Bruce Hughes & the All-Nude Army, Lonelyland, the Leavers (6:00), Bruce Hughes & the All-Nude Army (6:00)

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE Song Swap (6:00); Matt the Electrician, Nick's House Band (8:00) **A**

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Clay Compania (9:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Ali Holder (6:00), Chief & the Doomsday Device (9:00)

TROPHY CLUB Mark Chandler (8:00)

THE WHITE HORSE Emilie Clepper & Okie Weiss, Jim Stringer, Rosie & the Ramblers (8:00)

TUESDAY 1/20

BAT BAR Clint Manning (4:00); Samantha Lee Duo, Calloway Trio (7:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Paul LeMond Band (7:00), Light Horse Harry (7:00)

BEERLAND Empty Markets, Dye, Kurraaka, Baby Nelson & the Philistines (9:00) **A**

BROKEN SPOKE Amanda, Don Walser Tribute w/ Howard Kalish (6:00) **A**

C-BOY'S HEART & SOUL 8½ Souvenirs (7:00), Rey Arteaga (10:00)

CACTUS CAFE Larkin Poe (8:00) **A**

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Gary Newcomb, Patty David, the Stargazers, Coyotes (5:30) **A**

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Blue Water Highway, American Aquarium (9:00) **R**

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Chris Ray (5:00), Sonny Wolf (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Toni Price (6:00), Barfield (10:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB GALLERY James McMurtry, Ephraim Owens Experience (8:30)

DIZZY ROOSTER Southbound Blues (5:00), Tish & Misbehavin' (9:00)

THE DOGWOOD Colt Landon Baker & Janie (7:30)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

THE DRAG BAR Open Mic w/ Lucy (9:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Tony Taboada Trio (7:00) **A**

ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith (6:00), Marcus Wilcher Quartet (9:30)

ELYSIUM Eurotrash (10:00)

EMPIRE CONTROL ROOM Canvas People, Dead Tree Duo, Horti (8:00)

FRIENDS Erin Jaimes, Clay Compania (7:30)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Fingerpistol (8:00)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

THE LOST WELL John Doe Stompers

LUX Treble Soul (8:00)

MOHAWK BYOV.INYL Happy Hour (5:00), The Refrains, Ghosts of Dixie, Those Nights (9:00)

NEWORLDELI Eggjam

ONE-2-ONE BAR Malia Grace (6:30), the Drakes, Garrett LeBeau (8:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Jerry Kirk (6:00), Tommy Elskes (8:30) **A**

RAY BENSON'S RATTLE INN Open Mic w/ Ronnie Hall (9:00)

RED 7 Machine Head (8:00) **A**

THE ROOST Grace Pettis

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Startown (5:00)

SAXON PUB Will Knaack (6:00), London & David, Robert Kline Jr., George Devore, Bonnie & Clydes (8:00) **A**

THE SKYLARK LOUNGE Dickie Lee Erwin (8:00)

SPEAKEASY Open Mic w/ Ronnie Hall (9:00)

SPIDER HOUSE BALLROOM Austin Poetry Slam (7:00), Austin Mic Exchange (11:00)

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE Durawa w/ Floyd Domino, Arthur Brown; Lounge Side Jazz Sessions (6:00) **A**

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Paul Walker Trio (9:00)

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS Khost, Capyac, Summer Salt (7:00) **A**

TRIPLE CROWN Troy Stone (6:00); PotsnPans, Mr. Composition, Gost & SymmaTree, CA the Commoner, Dane, JMAG & Reeze, Man-of-the-Downtrodden (9:00)

THE WHITE HORSE Matt Downing's Bluegrass Explosion, Devin Jake, Emily Herring (10:00)

Z'TEJAS Blue Mist (6:00)

WEDNESDAY 1/21

290 WEST BAR & GRILL Open Mic (8:45)

AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (6:00)

AMPED AUSTIN Treble Soul (9:00), Treble Soul (9:00)

AUSTIN BEER GARDEN BREWING CO. Jennifer Jackson (8:30)

BAT BAR Raul Adrian Ochoa (4:00); Marcus Rios Duo, Red Lady (7:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB C.K. Bailey (9:30)

BROKEN SPOKE Ken Simpson, Dance Lessons, Jake Penrod (6:00)

C-BOY'S HEART & SOUL Malford Milligan w/ John Gaar, Dave Sebree (6:30), Roxy Roca (9:30)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Songwriters Open Mic w/ Jack Geiser, Karma, the Reen, the Soapboxers (7:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle (11:00)

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Jordan Dewbre (5:00), Aaron Navarro (9:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Hot Club of Cowtown (6:30), Painted Redstarts, Jon Dee Graham, James McMurtry (9:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB GALLERY Matt Hubbard Trio; Snizz (8:30)

DIZZY ROOSTER Chris Ray (5:00), Sean Evan & His Very Handsome Band (9:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Frank & the Station Masters

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE James Speer (7:00) **A**

ELEPHANT ROOM Moonshine Kids w/ Seela & Stanley (6:00); Kris Kimura's Wasabi Grande Big Band (9:30)

FIREHOUSE LOUNGE Austin Music Showcase, Open Mic (8:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Free Week: Mau Mau Chaplains (8:30)

FRIENDS Swamp Sauce, J.T. Coldfire (8:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR KDRP Radio Show (6:00)

HOLY MOUNTAIN BLXPLTN, Clemits, DJ Pain, Sole (9:00) **A**

PARISH

THU
1/15
DOORS@9PM

HONEY ISLAND SWAMP BAND w/BOSS STREET BRASS BAND

WED
1/21
DOORS@7:30PM

GIRAFFAGE w/SPAZZKID

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1/22
DOORS@7PM

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JAN
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FREE JAMS: DEEHUCK

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JAN
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FROM WEDNESDAY

LUCKY LOUNGE Next 2 the Tracks (9:00) **R**

LUX Calloway Ritch (8:00)

MERCER STREET DANCEHALL Open Mic w/ Patrick Murphy (7:30)

MOHAWK Possum Posse, the Valley Forge, Wild Bill & the Lost Knobs, Other Lovers (9:00)

NEWORLEDEL Guiliana Millanta

THE NORTH DOOR FOOD w/ Thomas Strönen, Iain Ballamy (8:00) **★R**

ONE-2-ONE BAR WIMPS Happy Hour (6:00), Black Red Black, Hatch (8:30) **R**

PARISH Spazzkid, Giraffage (8:30) **★R**

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Open Mic w/ Andrea Marie (8:00) **A**

REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)

RED 7 Down With Webster, Captain Midnite, Kyle Lucas, Jonny Craig, the Blueprint (6:00) **R**, Party Dress, Battling Giants (8:30) **R**

RILEY'S TAVERN Mike Ethan Messick (9:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Jesse Jay Harris (7:00); Jimmy & the Mustangs, the Lonesome, Aaron McDonnell (9:00)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Blues Jam w/ Breck English (8:40)

SAXON PUB The Whiskey Sisters, Dustin Prinz (9:00)

THE SCOOT INN Triumph Over Shipwreck, No Life Kings, Resent (10:00) **R**

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SPIDER HOUSE BALLROOM Benko, Wonderbitch, Satalights (9:00)

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE Chris Gage, AMF Planning Ahead, Wrenfro (6:00) **A**

STUBB'S Field Report, Bahamas (8:00) **R**

THE THIRSTY NICKEL The Goodz (9:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Daniel Phipps (6:00)

TROPHY CLUB Mark Chandler (8:00)

WATER TROUGH AT LONE STAR COURT Chris Smith (6:00)

THE WHITE HORSE Swing Dance Lessons, Thrift Set Orchestra, Mayeux & Broussard, Carson McHone (7:00)

Z'TEJAS Bob Livingston (6:00)

THURSDAY 1/22

AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (6:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Tony Harrison, Dance Lessons, Jesse Dayton (6:00)

C-BOY'S HEART & SOUL Paul Oscher (6:00), Red Young Trio (10:00)

CACTUS CAFE Lera Lynn (8:30) **★R**

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Karen Tennison (6:30) **A**

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Jonas Alvarez (6:30) **A**

CONTINENTAL CLUB The O's, American Aquarium (10:00) **R**

CONTINENTAL CLUB GALLERY Liv Mueller, Tameca Jones (8:30)

DIZZY ROOSTER Phil Luna (4:30), Sonny Wolf (9:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Robert Kelly (7:00) **R**

EDGE OF TOWN SALOON & GRILL Rockin' Stevie

ELEPHANT ROOM Sarah Reisner (6:00); Sticky Lopez & the Friends of Tony Campise (9:30) **★**

ELYSIUM Maschinenhaus: Night of the Nurses w/ DJ Prophet, DJ Edministers (9:30)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Solid Gold, the Jetsuns (9:00) **R**

FRIENDS Blues in the Night (4:00); Sam Pace, Conquistadors (7:30)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON John Baumann (6:00), Alvin Crow (9:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Austin Heat (6:30)

HOLY MOUNTAIN Marsh Chapel, Silver Ships, Star Parks (9:00) **R**

LAMBERTS Masumi & the Gentlemen (7:00); Scott Collins, Ben Ballinger, K. Phillips (10:00)

MERCER STREET DANCEHALL Doug Moreland & the Flying Armadillos (7:30)

MOHAWK Freezepop (9:00) **R**

THE NOOK Ryan Murphy (5:00), Clint Manning Trio (8:30)

THE NORTH DOOR Sivion, A.J. McQueen, Christon Gray, Swoope (8:00) **R**

ONE WORLD THEATRE Kenny G (7:00, 9:30) **★R**

ONE-2-ONE BAR Lex Land (6:30); Lamar Stockton, Rachel Loy & Suzanna Choffel, Mount Pressmore (8:00)

PARISH Waka Winter Classic (7:00) **R**

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Johnson (8:30), Huck Johnson & the Jack Knives (10:30) **A**

RAY BENSON'S RATTLE INN Chance Anderson, Johnny Pabst, Brokestring & the Empty Promises (9:30)

RED 7 The Beautiful Ones, Angel Du\$, Cruel Hand (6:00) **R**, Dark Rooms, Orthy, Slow Magic (9:00) **R**

RILEY'S TAVERN Mark Jungers (9:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Dance Party w/ Larry Lange & the Lonely Knights (7:30)

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Soul Wagon

SAXON PUB Eightysixxed (6:00), Patrice Pike, Aaron Einhouse (8:00)

THE SCOOT INN Kiddoo & the Dude, Apex, Hungerford (9:00) **R**

SPEAKEASY Bad Marmot (10:00)

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE The Belle Sounds w/ Tahoma; Anthony da Costa (8:00) **R**

STUBB'S Shrub, Sublime Tribute w/ Badfish (8:00) **R**

SWAN DIVE Amnesia Baby, the Dry Season, Videoing, Semihelix

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS Boss Eye, Marriage, User Error (7:00) **R**

TRIPLE CROWN David Harris (6:00); Gram Parsons Tribute, Sweet Gary, Victor Holk (10:00)

WATER TROUGH AT LONE STAR COURT Niel Nasset (6:00)

THE WHITE HORSE Anthony Ray Wright, Leo Rondeau (8:00) **R**

Z'TEJAS The Brew (6:00)

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"Dating!"

The LUV DOC

Howdy Doc!

I'm single and almost ready to mingle, but there is one problem ... everyone seems to have their face buried in some alternate and insincere rectangle of technology. BORING!! I still read paperbacks, send postcards, and believe in the power of rock & roll. Here's my question: Where have all the f-in' cowboys gone?? Brokeback Mountain???

— Cinnamon Girl

First of all CG, let me commend you on your reluctance to embrace digital media ... which at this point is well over 20 years old. Yeah, seriously. Two decades. Nearly a quarter century. Some might even call it a generation, but I'm not one to beat a dead horse ... well, maybe if it voted for Greg Abbott, 'cause you just know there is a Democrat donkey inside trying to get out. ... Anyway, suffice it to say that we here at the *Chronicle* are truly grateful that Luddites such as yourself still exist. Let's be honest: Newsprint hasn't yet made a comeback like vinyl has, and even if it does, my guess is that the hipsters would only pretend to read it. In fact, if you see anyone reading a *Chronicle* who is under the age of 30 and looks like a lumberjack, don't quiz him on its contents, just give him a knowing nod and maybe a finger pistol, and pretend that you're hip to the whole artisanal newsprint resurgence. Words just look more authentic and mean more when they're printed in real ink on partially recycled wood pulp, don't they? We're not the only ones who feel this way, right? Clearly not. I don't mean to brag or anything, but the *Chronicle* has one of the largest readerships of any alternative newspaper in the country. Yes, that could be because of our sick writing and illo skillz, or it could be that Austin still has plenty of people just like yourself who can actually read a map, write a letter, or hold a conversation. Luddite is perhaps a bit of an insensitive and derogatory term for these people, so, for the sake of diplomacy, let's just call them by their more common appellation: old people. I realize that's not particularly attractive either, but I tried to popularize a much hipper acronym, PWPH (People With Pubic Hair) and it never really took off. p.s. If you're wondering how it's pronounced, it's "poof." Genius, right? I know that is also a derogatory term for British Brokeback cowboys, but think of what they did with the good ol' American term "fanny." Payback, bitches. So, where have all the cowboys gone? Not to the NFC playoffs, but if you're looking for some singles action, I would wear something low cut to Half Price Books or maybe the Roost on a Friday night and see how that works out. All the kids at Midnight Rodeo are too busy Snapchatting to notice your cleavage.

NEED SOME ADVICE FROM THE LUV DOC?
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COMICS

3000
by Sam Hunt



PEPPERMINT TEARS

RYAN HENNESSEE 2015



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The U.S. Centers for Disease Control says that Americans are now statistically more likely to be killed by a gun than in a car accident. Bloomberg News reports that gun deaths have overtaken road accidents as a cause of death for the whole population, regardless of age.

Screamin' Jay Hawkins and his band were totally drunk when they recorded "I Put a Spell on You." Hawkins once said he did not even remember making the record.

According to Slate, white-tailed deer are the deadliest animals in North America. Every year an estimated 1.25 million deer-vehicle crashes result in about 150 human fatalities, more than 10,000 injuries, and insurance payouts approaching \$4 billion.

"Species" is both singular and plural, but that doesn't stop some people from erroneously making "specie" a singular of "species."

Above is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the *Chronicle*, or email mrpants@austinchronicle.com.



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Co-signers welcome

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CENTRAL Big Dog Friendly, wooded property. Campbells Hole on Greenbelt. Remodeled new kitchen. Huge pool. Minutes to Downtown. \$871. AustinCool.com 512-693-7231. Broker

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Best Deal In Austin TX!!
1 bedroom \$650
Bathroom outside the bedroom
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Close to IH 35
Fast move ins

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NORTH
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SOUTH
Another smokin' deal
ONLY \$99 deposit
1s from \$595
2s from \$749
Close to everything
Pool
Bus routes
Fun place to live

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SOUTH #1 AustinCool.com
693-7231 Greenbelt trail at door,
W/D incl, walk to shops/cafes-
cool 78704, \$938.

SOUTH
1bdrs \$599-\$709
2bdrs \$759-\$849
Get Back to Nature!!
Wake up fishing or having coffee around ur private pond
-Fishing
-Fitness room
-Sparkling pools
-Private patio
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Near cafes and shops. Owner managed. W/D minutes to downtown. \$885. AustinCool.com 512-693-7231. Broker

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1 bedrooms \$595-\$649
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Too Hot To Handle!!
4 bedrooms from \$1200
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Pools
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COMMERCIAL

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Perfect locations for your networking event, meeting, pop up retail, or client activation. For more information, please visit our website at www.knightrealestate.com

OFFICES for rent in holistic health building with great people. SW Austin, 110-400 sq. ft. \$770-\$2,000. Front desk services available. 512-328-4041

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100+ yr. old general store/whse. Great studio/workshop. Approx 5100 sq ft. \$59,000, make offer. Franke Real Estate 512-268-0101.

ROOMMATES

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WEBSITE Do you think you could win a Roommate Horror Story contest? Really? Then we think you should get a new roommate....Check out our roommate section online at austinchronicle.com/classifieds.

FOR SALE

NORTH
A newly built place to live in Austin for under \$80,000??? 657sf 1/1 in north Austin off Metric. Rebuilt completely in 2010. Refurbished interior to like new. Call Condo Joe for showing 512-203-4100

PFLUGERVILLE
3/2 1/2 townhome w/2 car garage. 1300 sq ft with fenced yard on quiet cul-de-sac. Near Park 'n Ride Rapid Transit into UT & downtown. Under \$130,000! Call Condo Joe for showing 512-203-4100

REPO
1/4 acre with all utilities installed. READY TO GO, WILL FINANCE, BANDERA 830-796-3143

SOUTH
A 2 bd plus a ground level office with separate entrance on Manchaca! \$189,700 to mark your spot in south Austin for you, a roommate, and a place to do business. 1000 sq ft. Redone in 2007 with wood floors, granite, stainless, etc. Perfect south Austin abode. Call Condo Joe for showing 512-203-4100

CLOTHING/ JEWELRY

APPAREL GOTH * PUNK * ROCK
Clothing, stickers, patches pins, jewelry, corsets.
2101 S. 1st.
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445-9919

FOR SALE Your boyfriends huge neon "Miller Genuine Draft" sign not complimenting your new Pottery Barn spring floral sleeper sofa? Sell it with *The Austin Chronicle's* For Sale section. Call 512-454-5765. Call it. Today!

WEBSITE The perfect couch for you might be online! Check out austinchronicle.com/classifieds for more Items for Sale.

MOTOR

2012 TOYOTA PRIUS C
Excellent cond, all maint records, new tires, 1 owner, private party, call soon, won't last!! (512) 573-4219

AUTOS CASH FOR CARS:
Any Car/Truck. Running or Not! Top Dollar Paid. We Come To You! Call For Instant Offer: 1-888-420-3808 www.cash4car.com

MOTOR "Get the hell out of my way! You have no right to be on the road with that piece of crap!" Find a new car in *The Austin Chronicle's* Motor Section.

TICKETS/ ENTERTAINMENT

FOR SALE U2, Bob Dylan, Willie ... did you miss out on these shows? Make sure it doesn't happen again. *The Austin Chronicle's* For Sale section has all the shows you can ask for.

TICKETS We "B" Tickets
* Best Seats * Best Prices *
Kat Edmondson * Diana Ross
* Russell Peters * Mama Mia * Jersey Boys * Iggy Azalea * Rain * Mellencamp * Fleetwood Mac * Nickelback * Blue Man Group * Los Lobos * The Who Bennett & Gaga * Alice Cooper * Kevin Hart * John Prime * Bill Maher * Neil Diamond * Enrique Iglesias * Journey * Once * VIVE Pickup/Mail Order 512 448-2303

BROLLI

I crave lots of love and interaction! Because I am still so young, I will require steady training and activity. A home with a fenced yard and lots of toys would be ideal. A family that will take me for plenty of walks/run would be the best!



260-SPCA CALL FOR HOURS
909 S. BAGDAD RD., LEANDER, TX
CENTRALTEXASSPCA.COM

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE
austinchronicle.com

DOLLY

Pet of the Week

Well hello, Dolly! That's what everyone around here says to me! They like my sweet nature and my eagerness to please. My humans are very important to me and I accept all the attention eagerly! I'm ready for my forever family to find me and continue my training.



THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE **Austin HUMANE SOCIETY**

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LEGAL

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Beer and Wine Retailers Permit with Late Hours Permit and Food and Beverage Certificate by Portwood Enterprises LLC, dba Spartan Pizza Beverage located at 1007 E 6th St. Travis County, Austin, TX 78702. Officers are Matt Portwood-manager.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Beer and Wine, Mixed Beverage Retailers Permit with Late Hours Permit Certificate by A&E Texas Corporation dba Hanovers Draught Haus located at 108 E. Main Street, Travis County, Pflugerville, TX 78660. Officers are Adeline Bui-President and Uyen Tran-Vice President.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Distiller's and Rectifier's Permit by Austin Whiskey Company, LLC d/b/a Austin Spirits located at 13807 Quitman Pass, Austin, Travis County, Texas 78728. Managers of said company are Paul F. Groepler and Gary R. Crowell.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine & Beer Retailer's permit by PELAGIC, LLC, DBA MONGERS (MARKET + KITCHEN) to be located at 2401 E. Cesar Chavez St., Austin, Travis County, Texas. Owners of said corporation are Roberto San Miguel/Owner & Shane Stark/Owner.

Application has been

made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Beer Retailer's Permit by Pisit Kobboon dba Thai Passion, to be located at 13376 N. Hwy 183 #400, Austin, Williamson County, Texas. Owner of Thai Passion is Pisit Kobboon.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Beer Retailer's Permit with FB by LMI Vin, Inc. dba la Madeleine, located at 1201 Barbara Jordan Blvd., Bldg. 11, Austin/Travis County Texas. Officers of said Corporation are John P. Cahill, PRES, Harry J. Martin, Jr., VP/SEC, Michael T. Clock, Treasurer/VP/CFO, and Claude Bergeron, Dir/CEO.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-14-000113 TO: ARQUIMIDEZ ALM-ENDAREZ, Acknowledged Father of the subject Child, Laurent Agustin Almendarez, and to all whom it may concern, Respondents; GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. **YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED** to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 250th Judicial District, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the Original Petition in a Suit Affecting the Parent-Child Relationship and Affidavit of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 9th day of January, 2014, against the Acknowledged Father, ARQUIMIDEZ ALM-ENDAREZ, and said suit being number D-1-FM-14-000113 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In the Interest of Laurent Agustin Almendarez, a Child," the nature of which suit is a request to appoint Petitioner, or a competent adult recommended by petitioner, or an authorized agency recommended by Petitioner as Managing Conservator of the child, whose name, date and place of birth are as follows: Laurent Agustin Almendarez December 23, 1998 Place of Birth Nicaragua The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the Child's interest, which will be binding upon you, including the determination of paternity and the appointment of a managing conservator. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Austin, Texas, this 7th day of January, 2015. **REQUESTED BY: CRYSTAL LEFF-PINON ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY P.O. BOX 1748 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767 (512) 854-9662** State Bar No. 24049685

FOR TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES
ATTN: Denise DuBose (512) 854-9662
VELVA L. PRICE
Travis County District Clerk
1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767
By /s/ Charles Upshaw
DEPUTY

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-14-001672 TO: RAMON MENDOZA, Alleged Father of the subject Child, Angel Mendoza Jose, and to all whom it may concern, Respondents; GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. **YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED** to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 53rd Judicial District, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the Original Petition in a Suit Affecting the Parent Child Relationship- Petition and Affidavit of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 25th day of March, 2014, against the Alleged Father, RAMON MENDOZA, and said suit being number D-1-FM-14-001672, on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In the Interest of Angel Mendoza Jose, Kevin Jose and Benjamin Jose, Children," the nature of which suit is a request to terminate the parent-child relationship and/or name the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services or a suitable, competent adult recommended by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, or an authorized agency recommended by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services as Managing Conservator of the child, whose name, date and place of birth are as follows: Angel Mendoza Jose December 31, 2006 Place of Birth Austin Texas The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the Child's interest, which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity and the appointment of a managing conservator with the authority to consent to the Child's adoption. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Austin, Texas, this 8th day of January, 2015. **REQUESTED BY: KASEY M. WHITE ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY P.O. BOX 1748 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767 (512) 854-9662** State Bar No. 24042147 FOR TRAVIS COUNTY CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES
ATTN: Denise DuBose (512) 854-9662
VELVA L. PRICE
Travis County District Clerk
1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767
By /s/ Charles Upshaw
DEPUTY

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-14-006615 TO: UNKNOWN FATHER and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. **YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED** to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 345TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the

Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the FIRST AMENDED PETITION IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP of TIA NICOLE HILL, Petitioner(s), filed in said court on DECEMBER 29, 2014, against UNKNOWN FATHER Respondent(s), and said suit being number D-1-FM-14-006615 the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF NATHAN-IEL MAYS HILL, A CHILD", the nature of which suit is a request FIRST AMENDED PETITION IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP. The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, December 30, 2014. **AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA** Travis County District Clerk Travis County Courthouse 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003 (78767) Austin, Texas 78701
PREPARED BY: ALANIZ IFRAIN REQUESTED BY: TIA NICOLE HILL 1029 LANARK LOOP PFLUGERVILLE, TEXAS 78660

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ALAN ANDREW HNATH Deceased, No. C-1-PB-15-000012 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas. LINDA MARIE HNATH and all The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed in Probate Court No. 1, Heman Marion Sweatt Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas, on January 06, 2015, an Application to Determine Heirship and request for Issuance of Letters of Administration in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said ALAN ANDREW HNATH, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate. Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas. All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so. If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved. **GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on January 06, 2015. **Dana DeBeauvoir** County Clerk, Travis County, Texas P.O. BOX 149325 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325 By Deputy: /s/ O. RUIZ**

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF MELVIN HOUK Deceased, No. C-1-PB-14-001856 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas. VIRGINIA GHARABEH AND ALL The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed in Probate Court No. 1, Heman Marion Sweatt Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas, on October 10, 2014, an Application to Determine Heirship and for letters of Independent Administration in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said MELVIN HOUK, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate. Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the

expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas. All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so. If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved. **GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT** at office in Travis County, Texas, on October 10, 2014. **Dana DeBeauvoir** County Clerk, Travis County, Texas P.O. BOX 149325 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325 By Deputy: /s/ ABRAM GONZALEZ

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-14-001672 TO: SANTOS ANTONIO CORONA, Alleged Father of the subject Child, Kevin Jose, and to all whom it may concern, Respondents; GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. **YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED** to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 53rd Judicial District, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the Original Petition in a Suit Affecting the Parent Child Relationship- Petition and Affidavit of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 25th day of March, 2014, against the Alleged Father, SANTOS ANTONIO CORONA, and said suit being number D-1-FM-14-001672, on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In the Interest of Angel Mendoza Jose, Kevin Jose and Benjamin Jose, Children," the nature of which suit is a request to terminate the parent-child relationship and/or name the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services or a suitable, competent adult recommended by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services as Managing Conservator of the child, whose name, date and place of birth are as follows: Kevin Jose September 5, 2010 Place of Birth Austin Texas The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the Child's interest, which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity and the appointment of a managing conservator with the authority to consent to the Child's adoption. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Austin, Texas, this 8th day of January, 2015. **REQUESTED BY: KASEY M. WHITE ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY P.O. BOX 1748 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767 (512) 854-9662** State Bar No. 24042147 FOR TRAVIS COUNTY CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES
ATTN: Denise DuBose (512) 854-9662
VELVA L. PRICE
Travis County District Clerk
1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767
By /s/ Charles Upshaw
DEPUTY

CITATION BY PUBLICATION TO: ANGELA L BROWN: You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days

after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. The petition of Tracey Huston, Petitioner, was filed in the Court of Travis County, Texas, on the 17th day of November, 2014 against Angela L Brown, Respondent, numbered D-1-FM-09-004524, and entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF J.E.H. AND M.A.H., CHILDREN." The suit requests that the Petitioner be appointed as sole managing conservator with the right to designate primary residence without geographic restriction, that the Court deny Respondent access to the children, or, in the alternative, that the court order Respondent's periods of visitation continuously supervised by an entity chosen by the court. The court has authority in this suit to render an order in the children's interest that will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with the authority to consent to the children's adoption. Issued and given under my hand and seal of the Court at office, this the 18th day of November, 2014. --- Clerk of the District Court of Travis County, Texas. Steve Salinas, Deputy.

D-1-GV-11-001623 CONSTA-

BLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of December, 2014 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-11-001623, wherein Travis County, Pflugerville Independent School District, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2 are plaintiffs, and Noradino Hernandez, Jose Hernandez (In Rem Only) and Juana Estrada (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$8,648.39 Dollars**, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on April 23, 2013. I, on the 31st day of December, 2014, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of February, 2015 at



AV218 POUND SALE

NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IMPOUNDED BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 683.011 ET SEQ., TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, REGULATING THE IMPOUNDING AND SALE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES BY DELEGATE OR PERSONALLY.

THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECIEVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.

I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

FEBRUARY 18, 2015 @ 9:30 AM @ SOUTHSIDE WRECKER, 8200 S. CONGRESS, AUSTIN, TX 78745

155000711	1996	ISUZ	LL	633JHD	TX 452CK58V7T4315982
155000703	2001		BUS	U18684	TX 4UZAACBV91CH72815
155000698	1995	INTL	BUS	T83894	TX 1HVBBABP2SH281834
145056947	1997	TOYT	4DR	CH6Z917	TX 1NXBA02E8VZ627961
145056933	2001	GMC	LL	PC801489DE1GKDT13W812121285	
155000719	1997	MITTS	4DR	DX1K645	TX JA3AY36C0VU42019
145056940	1991	TOYT	LL	Z57KDK	TX JT3VN29V2M0008919
145056945	1953	FRUE	SEMI	TRAL	58585Z TX A V 1 7 7 3 0 8
145056916	2001	CHRY	2DR	BSK2119	TX 1C3EL65U71N599757
145051905	2000	AUDI	4DR	CJ6W059	TX WUAAC28D3YA100420
145050409	1997	CHEV	LL	BT67485	TX 1GNEC13R9VJ383023



10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 38, Block A, Dessau Estates, Sec. 1, Plat No. 50/17 as described in Volume 13260, Page 228 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas. THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$8,648.39** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 31st day of December, 2014.

CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-11-001989 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 201ST District Court of Travis County, on the 15th day of December, 2014 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-11-001989, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and City of Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and C. Raymond Ulmer a/k/a Clarence Raymond Ulmer, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of C. Raymond Ulmer a/k/a Clarence Raymond Ulmer, whose last known address was 24 River Ranch Road, Boerne, Tx 78006 are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$6,820.87** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 201ST District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 20, 2012.

I, on the 31st day of December, 2014, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of February, 2015 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 20, Block L, Lago Vista, Section 3, Phase Three, Plat No. 30/40 as described in Volume 6565, Page 515 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$6,820.87** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 31st day of December, 2014.

CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE

TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-001390 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 353RD District Court of Travis County, on the 15th day of December, 2014 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-001390, wherein Travis County, Del Valle Independent School District, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 11 and Austin Community College are plaintiffs, and Wyatt Whittle, Jr., Phillis Shackle a/k/a Phyllis Shackles, Randy Mack Whittle, (In Rem Only 2006-2010 and Personally 2011-Present), Christopher Jerry Whittle, Edith Whittle Maxwell, Karen Joyce Whittle, Paul Gary Whittle, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Paul Gary Whittle, Wally Ray Whittle a/k/a Wiley Ray Whittle, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Wally Ray Whittle a/k/a Wiley Ray Whittle, Travis County, Elgin Independent School District and Travis County Healthcare District (In Rem Only), State of Texas/Bond Forfeiture Section (In Rem Only) and United States of America (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums: **Billing Number: 155298 = \$9,976.90 and Billing Number: 155299 = \$5,043.48** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 353RD District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 24, 2014.

I, on the 31st day of December, 2014, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of February, 2015 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Billing Number: 155298
Lot 11, El Rancho, Plat No. 55/42 as described in Volume 10249, Page 885, SAVE AND EXCEPT that 1.75 acre tract as described in the attached Exhibit A of the deed records of Travis County, Texas
Billing Number: 155299
Lot 10, El Rancho, Plat No. 55/42 as described in Volume 10249, Page 885 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Billing Number: 155298 = \$9,976.90 and Billing Number: 155299 = \$5,043.48** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 31st day of December, 2014.

CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE

PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-001547 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 345TH District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of December, 2014 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-001547, wherein Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health and Austin Community College are plaintiffs, and Elijah Nelson, Carol Nelson, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. f/k/a Washington Mutual Bank f/k/a Provident National Bank (In Rem Only), Charles Chambers (In Rem Only), James Nunez (In Rem Only), Patricia Nunez (In Rem Only) and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$5,950.59** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 345TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 10, 2014.

I, on the 31st day of December, 2014, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of February, 2015 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

0.262 of an acre out of the J.C. Tannehill League (Sur. 29) as described in Document number 2004110983, Document number 2008065492 and Document number 2011055683 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$5,950.59** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 31st day of December, 2014.

CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-13-000879 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 126TH District Court of Travis County, on the 15th day of December, 2014 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-13-000879, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and City of Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and Arendsworth Homes, Inc. are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$4,826.55** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 126TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on March 28, 2014.

I, on the 31st day of December, 2014, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of February, 2015 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City

of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 310555, Highland Lake Estates, Section 31, Plat No. 66/90 as described in Volume 11844, Page 1372 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$4,826.55** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 31st day of December, 2014.

CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY - Internal Revenue Service

Notice of Public Auction Sale Under the authority in Title 28 U.S.C., Sections 2001 and 2002, the property described below will be sold pursuant to a Judgment and Order of Sale entered March 26, 2014 in United States of America v. Patrick J. Timponi, et al, defendant, Civil No. 1:13-cv-00937-LV United States District Court for the Western District of Texas.

Date of Sale: February 11, 2015
Time of Sale: 10:00 am with registration at 9:30.

Place of Sale: Embassy Suites 5901 N I-H 35, Austin, Texas 78723

Title Offered: Only the right, title, and interest of **Patrick Timponi** In and to the property will be offered for sale.

Description of Property: Property consists of coins and foreign currency. Items include a 1851 five dollar gold liberty coin, 1922 one dollar Ulysses grant coin, Troy Silver Lion Dollars, American Eagle Silver Dollars, Mexican Silver Dollars, Iraq Dinars, Vietnamese Dongs and much more. For a listing of all assets go to irauctions.gov
Property may be inspected at: Open House: February 10, 2015 between 10:00 am and 2:00 am

Terms and Conditions: The sale of the property shall be free and clear of any interests of Patrick J. Timponi
Minimum Bid amount: \$27,000.00

Form of Payment: All payments must be cash, certified check, cashier's or treasurer's check or by a United States postal, bank, express, or telegraph money order. **Make check or money order payable to the United States Department of Justice.**

The government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to withdraw the property from the sale.

The property is offered for sale "as is" and "where is" and without recourse against the United States. The United States makes no guarantee of condition of the property, or its fitness for any purpose. The United States will not consider any claim for allowance or adjustment or for the rescission of the sale based on failure of the property to comply with any expressed or implied representation.
Sara Wright, PALS
Phone 865-274-7349

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES PURSUANT OF TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ACT, THE FOLLOWING WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE UNLESS CHARGES ARE SATISFIED

WITHIN 30 DAYS.
GARAGE KEEPER: SOUTH-SIDE WRECKER,0615801VSF, 8200 S CONGRESS, AUSTIN, TX. 78745. (512)441-7094.
HOMEMADE TRAILER NOVIN \$960.00
1975 YAMAHA 3Y1000397 \$1580.00
2009 HONDA MC JH-2SC58019K100231 \$540.00
2002 SUZUKI \$1500.00
JSTRJAIC982100050 \$720.00
1994 CHEVY PK 2GCEC19K1R1312109 \$840.00

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VESSEL PURSUANT OF TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ACT, THE FOLLOWING WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE ON JANUARY 21, 2015 at 10AM AT STORAGE FACILITY: SOUTH-SIDE WRECKER 0615801VSF, 8200 S CONGRESS, AUSTIN, TX. 78745. 512-441-7094.
2001 BOMBARDIER JET SKI ZZN31944L001

NOTICE OF CONSTABLE'S SALE (REAL ESTATE) BY VIRTUE OF A First Order of Sale issued out of the 345TH Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas, in a certain cause numbered D-1-GN-14-003635. On the 25TH day of November A.D. 2014, styled: The Estates of Heatherwide Homeowners Association, Inc., PLAINTIFF(s) vs. Margaret N. Poulter, DEFENDANT(s) to me, as Deputy Constable of Pct. 2 Travis County, Texas, directed and delivered, I have levied upon this 11TH day of December A.D. 2014 at 2:05 PM and will between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. at approximately (10:00 AM) on the first Tuesday in February A.D. 2015, it being the 3RD day of said month, at the County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe St., Austin, Texas 78701 of said Travis County, proceed to sell at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash in hand, all right, title and interest, if any, which the Defendant(s) had on the 11TH day of December A.D. 2014 at 2:05 PM, or at any time thereafter, of in and to the following described property: **Lot 38, Block 24, Amended Plat Of Heatherwide, Section 1, An Addition in Travis County, Texas, According to the Map or Plat Thereof Recorded In Volume 86, Page 150D, Plat Records, Travis County, Texas**

NOTE: ON THE PROPERTY SOLD THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU HAVE BOUGHT THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BUYERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT THE PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS CONSTABLE'S SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTEREST ON THE PROPERTY. YOU HAVE SIMPLY PURCHASED WHATEVER NETREST THE DEFENDANT HAD IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, YOU SHOULD CONSULT THE COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE. THE PURCHASER WILL BE REQUIRED TO PRODUCE AN UNEXPIRED WRITTEN STATEMENT FROM THE TAX-ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR OF THIS COUNTY IN WHICH THE SALE IS CONDUCTED THAT THERE ARE NO AD VALOREM TAXES OWED TO THE COUNTY, SCHOOL, DISTRICT OR MUNICIPALITY. Texas Tax Code: 34.015(b) Said property is levied on as the property of Margaret N. Poulter, DEFENDANT(s), and will be sold to satisfy the Judgment for \$4,882.13 Dollars with Interest at the rate of 5.00% percent per annum from 22ND day of October, 2014, until paid and \$308.00 in Court Costs, \$1,500.00 Attorney's Fees plus the cost of executing this writ. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND on this 11TH day of December A.D. 2014.

Adan Ballesteros, Constable Pct. 2, Travis County, Texas By: Vincent Dodd, Deputy Constable

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATIONS Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, proposes the approval of the following traffic regulations: **SET MAXIMUM PRIMA FACIE**

SPEED LIMITS ON BULIAN LAKE, BROOKHAVEN TRAIL, BLUERIDGE TRAIL, BRIARWOOD TRAIL, LAURELWOOD TRAIL, ROCK PARK DRIVE, HONEYCOMB RIDGE, AND WESTWOOD TERRACE ALL IN PRECINCT THREE.

Any resident of Travis County, Texas, aggrieved by this proposal action may make written request for a mandatory public hearing.

Such request must be addressed to the Transportation and Natural Resources Department, Travis County, Texas, 78767, and must be received within seven (7) days of this notice.

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATIONS Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, proposes the approval of the following traffic regulations:

PRECINCT FOUR: SET MAXIMUM PRIMA FACIE SPEED LIMITS ON ELOY ROAD AND WILLIAMSON ROAD.

Any resident of Travis County, Texas, aggrieved by this proposed action may make written request for a mandatory public hearing. Such request must be addressed to the Transportation and Natural Resources Department, Travis County, Texas, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas, 78767, and must be received within seven (7) days of this notice.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, **Move It Self Storage South Austin** located at **5405 Wasson Rd, Austin TX 78745**, will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. The sale will begin at **11:00 am on Tuesday January 27, 2015**. Property will be sold to the highest bidder. Deposit for removal and cleanup may be required. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw item(s) from sale. Property in each space may be sold item-by-item, in batches, or by the space. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of following tenants, with brief description of contents in each space: Moreno, Martin: Household, Toolbox, Punching Bag, Beds, Furniture; Gilley, Leslie: Art Supplies, Msc. Plastic Containers; Remphr, Rochelle: Driftwood, Table, Chairs.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION FOR PUBLICATION A public auction will be held to satisfy Landlord's lien pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas

Property Code. Sale will be held at 1:00 pm on the 23rd day of January, 2015, at A-A-A Storage area located at 8956 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78758. All units will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Clean up and removal deposit will be required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw any property from the sale, and reserves the right to reject any bid. Sales include items from the following tenant's storage spaces: 307 Mickens, A.: bookcases, office & household, sofa, TV, boxes, totes 322 Rodriguez, L.: household furniture, boxes, totes 3708 Davis, J.: queen headboard, rail, mattress, boxsprings 3727 Resio, L.: 2 recliner love seats, picture 3825 Armstrong, W.: leather sofa, bed frame, outdoor chairs, suitcase, boxes, totes 514 Jackson, C.: outdoor table & 2 chairs, coffee table, tennis rackets, golf clubs & interior parts 650 Aguilar, C.: leather love-seat, aquarium, wooden chairs, kitchen equipment, boxes 730 Blanchard, K: vintage chest, dining set, shelving, bags & boxes 742 Slack, J.: T.V., sofa, bar stools, table, boxes

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE ACCESS SELF STORAGE

Located at 4341 and 4243 South Congress Avenue, Austin, Travis County, Texas wishing to avail themselves of the provisions of and pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, will hold a public auction of the property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale to be at 10:30 AM on Tuesday, January 27, 2015, at 4341

and 4243 South Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas 78745. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Clean up and removal deposit may be required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw property from sale. Property being sold includes complete content in spaces of the following tenants: Michael Ray, Christine Hoover, Ramon Hernandez, Nathan Garrett, Raul Castelo, and Joel Martinez.

Items to be sold include: window AC, stereos, ice chest, computer, printers, mirror, ladders, file cabinets, extension cords, wheel barrow, tool boxes, tools, turntable, dorm size refrigerator, fan, drafting table, tubs, electrical tools, sledge hammer, pipe bender, breaker boxes, wooden headboard, and footboard, mattresses, hutch, comforter, pillows, men's tennis equipment, craftsmen power tools, folding table, racks, weight bench, sheetrock, tools, garden tools, and assorted boxes, tubs, and various household items.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

PS Oraneco, Inc., hereby gives notice that the property generally described below is being sold to satisfy a Landlord's Lien pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, at the date and time indicated below, and on the following terms: All property will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash or credit cards, NO CHECKS, with payment to be made at the time of the sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any item or items from the sale. The property stored therein may include, but are not limited to general household items, appliances, boxes, bags, totes, tools, bedding, clothing, electronics, toys, books, files, furniture and miscellaneous items.

The property will be sold on the 28th of January 2015, on or about the time indicated at each self-storage facility identified below. **No Children Please. No Smoking Please. Wednesday, January 28th, 2015.**

9:30 a.m. Public Storage @ 9814 Westgate Blvd, Austin, TX 78748

0028 - Price, Jerimy 0107 - Hicks, Chasta 0123 - Whately, William 0317 - Debozy, Mackenzie 0344 - Alvear, Alma 0522 - Carr, Tyler 0555 - Graham, Richard 0565 - Wilson, Cassandra Ann 0569 - Nolen, Cynthia **10:00 a.m. Public Storage @ 7200 S 1st Street, Austin, TX 78745** B059 - Crawford, Steven C088 - barragan, michelle E133 - Rosales, Melissa F176 - Martinez, Amy I001 - Vazquez, Raul K319 - Lemuel, Kimberly N416 - Gonzales, Anna O440 - Guerrero, Juan O465 - Watkins, Samuel R546 - Martinez, Randal S583 - graham, molly T596 - Reyes, Joel T604 - WOODARD, ELSA U608 - Maldonado, Adrian U660 - Sengsourichanh, Christopher W800 - Lopez, Jose W811 - Thiele, Ryan

10:30 a.m. Public Storage @ 7112 South Congress, Austin, TX 78745 C9 - Moreno, Loreli D15 - Ramirez, Samantha D40 - Carpenter, Duane E18 - Miranda, Linda F3 - Jimenez, Naomi J37 - Torres, Michele J63 - Crocker, Glee K39 - Bell, Randi L3 - Murphy, Robin L45 - Griffin, Michael L67 - Gonzales, Arthur M4 - Guevara, Joe M5 - Munk, Craig

11:00 a.m. Public Storage @ 4202 Santiago, Austin, TX 78745 111 - Rodriguez, Kristen 212 - Woods, Wade 218 - Prejan, Steven 308 - Rojas, Raquel 351 - Reid, Allison 392 - Gonzalez, Monica 416 - Garcia, Augustine 448 - Pena, Jesse 508 - Ramirez, Michael 551 - Norton, Skyler 607 - Ward, Brandon J 621 - Simanek, Gary 669 - Woolsey, Colleen 697 - Charles, David 704 - Phelps, Christine

11:30 a.m. Public Storage 11:30 a.m. Public Storage @ 2121 S IH 35, Austin, TX 78741 2004 - Molina, Marianna 2076 - Ortiz, Deana 2093 - Rogero, Rosa 3032 - Williams, Quentin 3081 - Jones, Abigail 4041 - Gorn, Jennifer 4083 - Moncada, Angela 4102 - Figueroa, Robert 4166 - Anderson, Amy **1:00 p.m. Public Storage @ 5220 W Highway 290, Austin, TX 78735** 4146 - Manzak, lan

@ 2301 E Ben White, Austin, TX 78741

2011 - arlotta, john 2021 - Stevens, Deven 2095 - McBride, Ruth 2096 - Watts, Jason 3065 - Coy, James 3165 - Herrera, Roxanne 3183 - Lopez, Brittany 3203 - Rangel, Stephen 3204 - Vasquez, Raymond 3234 - Castillo, Nellie **12:00 p.m. Public Storage @ 5016 Ben White, Austin, TX 78741** B009 - Mandeville, Nelson B049 - Birdsall, Chance C077 - Delagarza, Joann C083 - Rasco, Linda C092 - LaFaye Jr, Michael C109 - Veals, Alex C136 - Brown, Jayme C142 - Lozano, Erika C196 - Perez Sr., John R C257 - Brown, Michael C289 - clark, jaclyn C310 - Castille, Tommy C319 - Garcia Jr, Daniel C328 - Cornelius, Gladys C339 - Gutierrez, Marcos D006 - Blair, Scott D016 - Paredes, Rosa

12:30 p.m. Public Storage @ 2121 S IH 35, Austin, TX 78741 2004 - Molina, Marianna 2076 - Ortiz, Deana 2093 - Rogero, Rosa 3032 - Williams, Quentin 3081 - Jones, Abigail 4041 - Gorn, Jennifer 4083 - Moncada, Angela 4102 - Figueroa, Robert 4166 - Anderson, Amy **1:00 p.m. Public Storage @ 5220 W Highway 290, Austin, TX 78735** 4146 - Manzak, lan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

PS Oraneco, Inc., hereby gives notice that the property generally described below is being sold to satisfy a Landlord's Lien pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, at the date and time indicated below, and on the following terms: All property will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash or credit cards, NO CHECKS, with payment to be made at the time of the sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any item or items from the sale. The property stored therein may include, but are not limited to general household items, appliances, boxes, bags, totes, tools, bedding, clothing, electronics, toys, books, files, furniture and miscellaneous items.

The property will be sold on the 27th of January, on or about the time indicated at each self-storage facility identified below. **No Children Please. No Smoking Please. Tuesday, January 27, 2015 9:30 a.m. Public Storage @ 1033 E. 41st Street, Austin, TX 78751** 3059 - Crayton, Vernon 3093 - Avila, Mary 4066 - Johnson, Michael 4088 - Snapp, Brian 4107 - Brown, Tamara 5150 - Parrick, David **10:30 a.m. Public Storage @ 937 Reiniil Street, Austin, TX 78751** 245 - Hebert, Walter 254 - Winston, Tanya 263 - Hunter, Tamara 309 - Haywood, Lakesha 336 - Scott, Michael 351 - Perez, Deborah 377 - Simmons, Whitney 441 - Romero, Dennis 443 - Musoke, Eva 613 - Guion-Richard, Hannah 616 - spence, IaKeisha 703 - Bell, Lorenzo 735 - Garza Elizondo, Janie 777 - Hardin, Anita

11:30 a.m. Public Storage @ 8101 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753 102 - Reed, Terranisha 1140 - Hill, Yolanda 124 - Gonzalez, Juan 1306 - House, Aaron 1419 - Montenegro, Clinton 1424 - Aguilar, Nancy 1437 - Ornelas, Jillian 1455 - Smith, Franklin 2025 - Sherman, Thomas 2079 - Campbell, Asiletra 226 - Hernandez, Diana 3069 - Linscott, Jordan 3075 - Yates, Leticia 3086 - Seiler, Michael 310 - Hawkins, Hale 3153 - Mitchell, Marion 3159 - Kellough, Nettie Jo 316 - Rodriguez, Gabriel 3208 - Buckman, Jacqueline 415 - Patrick, Frederick 415 - Fredrick Patrick 430 - Walker, Diane 501 - Cordero, Alfonso 538 - Ramos, Adriana 583 - Jaimes, Raunel

645 - Henderson, John
N1318 - Parker, Richard
N1349 - Baird Jr., Phillip
N1378 - Daughtridge, Todd
N2227 - Bodine, Brian
N2296 - Sauls, Frieda
N2314 - Latouf, Mary
12:30 p.m. Public Storage @ 8525 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753
A019 - Felder, Markell
A046 - Frazier, S Joyce
B010 - Williams, Jim
C002 - Hines, Monica
C011 - Mitchell, Albert
C079 - Coleman, Andrea
D013 - Ross, Warner
D014 - Serna, Isaac
D023 - Mayes, Courtney
D026 - Taylor, John W
D035 - Easley, Tamisha
D043 - Washington, Monisha
E004 - Farr, Jeff
E020 - Saldana, Rachel
F002 - Ornelas, Jillian
G038 - Luna, annette
J004 - Robinson, Desawn
J016 - Ross, Warner
J027 - Jackson, Toshia
1:30 p.m. Public Storage @ 8128 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753
B018 - Solis, Gerardo
B038 - Ervin, Sharon
C026 - Rodriguez, Margarito
C070 - Henslee, Donald
D021 - Owens, Tracy
D022 - Eidenschink, Clifford
Paul
D062 - Jackson, Tawanna
E008 - Rangel, Becky
E024 - Daniels, Cherita
E056 - Leal, Robert
E117 - sneed, allen
E125 - Scribner, MAMMIE
F024 - JOHNSON, SALLY A
F051 - Rodriguez, Clarissa
G061 - Wilson, Latasha
2:30 p.m. Public Storage @ 1213 W. 6th Street, Austin, TX 78703
2020 - McFarland, Robert
2051 - Ferguson, Mark
3124 - Brown, Araceli
4062 - Tyrone, Ruby
4094 - Cunningham, Epluribus
2:45 p.m. Public Storage @ 1321 W. 5th Street, Austin, TX 78703
A236 - Oldham, Taylor
A239 - Rodriguez, Gabrielle
A283 - Salazar, Jessica
B231 - Branoff, Jonathan
C228 - Balsehit, Marcus
3:00 p.m. Public Storage @ 6726 Bee Cave Rd., Austin, TX 78746
8202 - TEJAS SECURITIES GROUP
3:15 p.m. Public Storage @ 3911 RR 620 S., Bee Cave, TX 78738
1223 - Swanson, Jon
2005 - Ryan, Gary P.
2224 - Coyne, Donna
2373 - Swanson, Jon

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
PS Orangeco, Inc., hereby gives notice that the property generally described below is being sold to satisfy a Landlord's Lien pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, at the date and time indicated below, and on the following terms: All property will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash or credit cards, NO CHECKS, with payment to be made at the time of the sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any item or items from the sale. The property stored therein may include, but are not limited to general household items, appliances, boxes, bags, totes, tools, bedding, clothing, electronics, toys, books, files, furniture and miscellaneous items.
The property will be sold on the **29th of January 2015**, on or about the time indicated at each self-storage facility identified below. No Children Please.
Thursday Jan 29, 2015 23709 - 9:30 A.M. Public Storage @ 9205 Research Blvd. Austin, TX 78758
A008 - Gonzalez, Juan Jose
A059 - COX, EVA
A220 - Thompson, Danielle
A282 - Jones, Aaron
B064 - Garcia, Thomas
B065 - Moutray, Elaine
B071 - Peterson, Laura Lee
B074 - Kuhl, Lynae
C004 - Westbrook, William
C005 - Simmons, Stephen
C087 - Tillman, Charles
C103-A - Stroud, Nicki
C108 - Williams, John
D061 - Garcia, Simon Christopher
D106 - lee, linda
D122 - moeller, cory
E022 - Myers, Jessica
E039 - Bullock, Luke
E180 - Adams, Brittany
F029 - Harvey, Daydon
28224 - 10 A.M. Public

Storage@ 12318 N. Mopac Expressway Austin, TX 78758
A003 - Landrum, Candace
B112 - Wilson, Dawn
B117 - Lopez, Leroy
C290 - Barnettte, Melisa S
C411 - Medina, Cindy
C446 - Olivares, Maria
C449 - ABRAMS, P J
D491 - Salguero, Gina
D495 - Wilson, Dawn
20199 - 10:30 A.M. Public Storage@ 10931 Research Blvd. Austin, TX 78759
2143 - Joseph, Sidney
2302 - kenny, karin
4027 - Jones, Robbie
4063 - Terrazas, Crystal
4127 - Dowell, Denise
F004 - pawczewski, joseph
07002 - 11 A.M. Public Storage @ 12915 Research Blvd. Austin, TX 78750
1018 - Quintanilla, Yvonne
3103 - Neal, Adam
4102 - Little, Randy
4120 - Chandler, Camille
D016 - Roberts, Brian
08428 - 11:30 A.M. Public Storage@ 13675 N US HWY 183 Austin, TX 78750
0223 - Hickman, Roxanne - Brown Mercedes 280c
Vin# 11407312100615 Sold as is / parts
0332 - TOWNES, SHIRLEY
0604 - Aquino, Diana
1206 - Maldonado, Debbie
2103 - Williams, Justin
3219 - Salinas, Ricardo
3222 - Mitchell, Linda
4005 - Bradshaw, Kyle
25790 - 12 P.M. Public Storage @ 9420 Spectrum Dr. Austin, TX 78717
1241 - Nold, Stephen
1267 - schiraldi, nick
2173 - Cooper, Jacqueline
08415 - 12:30 P.M. Public Storage @ 1517 Round Rock Ave. Round Rock, TX 78681
1128 - PAIZ, ASHLEE
1144 - Francis, James
1175 - Hodges, Michelle
1233 - Robinson, Mattie
3130 - Mills, Kelly
4142 - Davis, Glenda
5118 - Jefferson, Donna
5119 - Mayweather-Lewis, Marzette
5137 - Rhymr, Marilyn
5143 - Anderson, Zenetra
6145 - Wingate, Constance
7107 - White, Rashida
8181 - Wright, Kristina
8183 - Nunez, Emmanuel
9104 - Wootton, Lacey
9124 - Stokes, Kellei
21607 - 1 P.M. Public Storage @ 10100 North I-18 35 Austin, TX 78753
A005 - Escalona, Stephanie
A009 - Moctezuma, Osvaldo Martin
A011 - Rocha, Casey
A040 - turner, carl
B006 - Wilder, Jeremy
B008 - Rodriguez, Enrique
B031 - Martinez, Griselda
B034 - SOWARDS, DALE
B088 - Drake, Aron
B099 - Calderon, Candace
B116 - Sullivan, Skeye
B126 - Henderson, Dionsysus
C002 - Ker, Jerobbin
C025 - Saldana, Maria
C082 - Knowles, Lacey
C083 - Sauls, Dominique
C093 - Gage, Jennifer
C094 - Hill, Teresa
C119 - Arredondo, Gracy
C121 - Stiles, Alicecon
D027 - White, Mary
D057 - Wilson, Nicole
E028 - Urias, Eric
E056 - Lopez, Pricilla
F003 - Bailey, Shermeka
G009 - Powell, Deseria
H004 - Booker, Georgia
H005 - Williams, Linda
H011 - Ward, Stephanie
08451 - 1:30 P.M. Public Storage @ 10001 N. I-18 35 Austin, TX 78753
1003 - Hulse, Rebecca
1033 - Woods, Lisa
1038 - Shaulis, Charla
2008 - Thomas, Vivian
2018 - Ledesma, Eustace
3029 - Bell, Thomas
3037 - Allen, Deborah
3038 - Todd, Nolden
4021 - Vonach, Catherine
5005 - Rodriguez, Alfredo
7016 - Alfonso, Olga
7021 - Baker, Warren
7029 - Davenport, Clifton
Darnell
8039 - Gums, Barbara Ann

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 2400 N Austin Ave, Georgetown, TX 78626 to satisfy a lien on February 3, 2015 at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage treasures.com: Nicole Romero, N. Romero, Teresa Esparza, T. Esparza, Shawn Richardson, S. Richardson, Bobby Dean Key, Lawrence

Johnson, Arnold Salinas

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 646 W Front St, Hutto, TX 78634 to satisfy a lien on January 6, 2015 at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage treasures.com: Christ Street Baptist Church, Deborah D. Miller, Gloria M. Najjar, Tarah Jeanette Savoie, Sergio Reyna, Sonya Williams, Jessica D. Campos, Leroy Hubbard, Phillip G. Redmond, Phillip Redmond, Alyssa Martin

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 12407 Highway 290 E, Manor, TX 78653 to satisfy a lien on February 3, 2015 at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage treasures.com: PATRICK MELTON, PATRICK R MELTON, RODNEY DONALD, STEVEN SANDERS, TIFFANY MAYS, TIFFANY RESHAUN MAYS, ROGER SANCHEZ, JUAN GUERRA, DANNY GILLESPIE, TAYLOR JOHNSTON, T JOHNSTON, JOSE TORRES, OLLIE YVETTE VAUGHN, OLLIE VAUGHN, ARESTER RANDLE, ARESTER RANDLE JR, HIAWATHA NASH, DONA L CHAMBERS, DONA CHAMBERS, WILLIAM FREY, KELLI SHOFSTALL.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 701 Goforth Rd. Kyle, TX 78640 to satisfy a lien on February 6, 2015 at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage treasures.com: James Anglin Philip O'Neil Anderson Anescia Trejo Audriana Marie Lawrence Virginia Gonzales Virginia Gonzales Deborah Garcia Sheila Burbage Leonard Rodriguez Brian Marquis Sheri Dickerson Raul Zapata Theresa P Jaramillo Theresa Jaramillo TF Jaramillo

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 21400 Interstate 35 Kyle, TX 78640 to satisfy a lien on February 6, 2015 at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage treasures.com: Kyle, TX 78640 to satisfy a lien on February 6, 2015 at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage treasures.com: Melody McBride Melody McBride Sterling Stephen R Merritt Stephen Merritt Phillip Monroe Larry Rivera

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 610 E. Stansney Lane, Austin, TX 78745 to satisfy a lien on February 6, 2015 at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage treasures.com: Tatiana Hueck Leena Bonds Kati Lynn Walker Kati L. Walker Joshua Applegate Victoria Gonzales

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 2150 Double Creek Dr Round Rock, TX 78664 to satisfy a lien on February 3, 2015 at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage treasures.com: Julie Krystyne Nicolette, Julie Nicolette, Melonie B Peninger Colye, Joshua P Gray, Joshua Gray, Jason Ambrose, Tina Busch, Myrna Garcia, Myrna Araceli Garcia, Samuel Wooten, Samuel J Wooten, Yncencia Mamoe, Yncencia Cindy Mamoe, Michael Harris, Michael J Harris, Roy A Shoulders, Roy Shoulders, Roy Allan Shoulders, Allan Shoulders, Niettel Maxie, Niettel S Maxie, Miguel Acosta, Brandon Byrns, Brandon K Byrns, Louis Rodriguez, Louis H Rodriguez Sr, Kendall Hisey, Debra Mcrae, Debra A Mcrae.

Ryan Tucker
Ryan J.Tucker
Ryan Joseph Tucker
Juan Hernandez Flores
Juan Hernandez
Don Willingham
Angel Cadena
Angel M.Cadena
Angel Moses Cadena
Katherine Sizemore
Katherine P. Sizemore
Katherine Peel Sizemore
Rosemary Lopez
Rosemary Gomez Lopez
Melissia Walker
Melissa A.Walker
Mary L Jacobs
Mary Jacobs
Mary Lavern Jacobs
Cynthia R. Rodriguez Hererra
Cynthia Rodriguez

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 1905 E. William Cannon Dr. Austin, TX 78744 to satisfy a lien on February 6, 2015 at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage treasures.com: Nicki Stroud, Albert Darrell Sr Deyoungue, Albert Deyoungue, Michael Hutchinson, Jacqueline White, Dianne Walker, Pamela Bunting, Jeremy Saucedo, Zachary Bazy, Joseph Lovelady, Joseph A Lovelady, Joshua Penny, Sheila Chandler, Tonia Sonnier, William Bars

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS By publication
State of North Carolina
Alamance County
District Court Division 14
CvD 1623
14-1: Pascual Puente Reyna TAKE NOTICE THAT a Summons and Complaint for an Absolute Divorce was filed in the office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Alamance County, State of North Carolina on August 21, 2014. You must file a response to the Complaint not later than February 25, 2015, (40 days after the date of first publication of notice) in order to participate in and receive further notice of the proceeding, including notice of the time and place of hearing. Upon failure to respond to this Complaint, the Plaintiff will apply to the court for a judgment of Absolute Divorce. **The District Court Judge presiding over the matter will enter a judgment of Absolute Divorce without your consent if there is no response.** Any and all rights you may have with respect to the absolute divorce will be extinguished with the entry of the Divorce Judgment. This the 16th day of January, 2015.
Kathleen F. Treadwell
Attorney for Plaintiff
PITTMAN & STEELE, PLLC
P. O. Box 2290
Burlington, NC 27216
P: 336-270-4440
F: 336-270-4437
North Carolina Bar No. 34965

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF BETTY D. KING A/K/A BETTY DUNLAVEY KING, DECEASED
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
Notice is hereby given that on January 6, 2015, Letters Testamentary were issued to: KEVIN ANN KING MARCYES by the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, in Cause Number C-1-PB-14-002136, pending upon the Probate Docket of said Court. All persons having claims against said estate are on notice of this administration and are hereby requested to present the same within the time prescribed by law to: THOMAS O. BARTON MCGINNIS, LOCHRIDGE & KILGORE, L.L.P., 600 Congress Avenue, Suite 2100 Austin, Texas 78701

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF CHARLES T. CLARK, DECEASED
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of James A. Allen, Deceased, were issued on January 6, 2015, in Cause No. C-1-PB-14-002161, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to the estate's independent executor without bond, Janet A. Katz. All persons having claims against the estate currently being administered are required to present them within the time required by law. Claims should be addressed in care of the representative's attorney, Lawrence A. Russell, 9951 Anderson Mill Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78750. Dated this 6th day of January, 2015.
/s/ Don E. Walden
State Bar No. 20672800
8310-1 N. Capital of Texas Highway, Suite 305 Austin, Texas 78731
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this 6th day of January, 2015.
/s/ Don E. Walden
State Bar No. 20672800
8310-1 N. Capital of Texas Highway, Suite 305 Austin, Texas 78731
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 12006 Ranch Road 620 N, Austin, TX 78750 to satisfy a lien on February 3, 2015 at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage treasures.com: Joshua Michael Walker, Joshua M. Walker, Joshua Walker, Elva Diaz, Elva L. Diaz, Elva-Ed Diaz, Nathan Bahrn Mottlaghi, Nathan Mottlaghi, Nathan Bahrn Mottlaghi, Joey Martinez, Armida Galvan, A. Galvan, Patricia Lynn Cindrich, Patricia Cindrich, Tracey A. Gribbin, Tracey Gribbin

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 14509 Owen Tech Blvd, Austin, TX 78728 to satisfy a lien on February 3, 2015 at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage treasures.com: Nicki Stroud, Albert Darrell Sr Deyoungue, Albert Deyoungue, Michael Hutchinson, Jacqueline White, Dianne Walker, Pamela Bunting, Jeremy Saucedo, Zachary Bazy, Joseph Lovelady, Joseph A Lovelady, Joshua Penny, Sheila Chandler, Tonia Sonnier, William Bars

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS By publication
State of North Carolina
Alamance County
District Court Division 14
CvD 1623
14-1: Pascual Puente Reyna TAKE NOTICE THAT a Summons and Complaint for an Absolute Divorce was filed in the office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Alamance County, State of North Carolina on August 21, 2014. You must file a response to the Complaint not later than February 25, 2015, (40 days after the date of first publication of notice) in order to participate in and receive further notice of the proceeding, including notice of the time and place of hearing. Upon failure to respond to this Complaint, the Plaintiff will apply to the court for a judgment of Absolute Divorce. **The District Court Judge presiding over the matter will enter a judgment of Absolute Divorce without your consent if there is no response.** Any and all rights you may have with respect to the absolute divorce will be extinguished with the entry of the Divorce Judgment. This the 16th day of January, 2015.
Kathleen F. Treadwell
Attorney for Plaintiff
PITTMAN & STEELE, PLLC
P. O. Box 2290
Burlington, NC 27216
P: 336-270-4440
F: 336-270-4437
North Carolina Bar No. 34965

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JAMES A. ALLEN
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of James A. Allen, Deceased, were issued on January 6, 2015, in Cause No. C-1-PB-14-002161, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to the estate's independent executor without bond, Janet A. Katz. All persons having claims against the estate currently being administered are required to present them within the time required by law. Claims should be addressed in care of the representative's attorney, Lawrence A. Russell, 9951 Anderson Mill Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78750. Dated this 6th day of January, 2015.
/s/ Don E. Walden
State Bar No. 20672800
8310-1 N. Capital of Texas Highway, Suite 305 Austin, Texas 78731
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this 6th day of January, 2015.
/s/ Don E. Walden
State Bar No. 20672800
8310-1 N. Capital of Texas Highway, Suite 305 Austin, Texas 78731
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are

HEARON & MOODY
A Professional Corporation
Attn: Jillian M. Owens
P.O. Box 98
401 Congress, Suite 2200
Austin, Texas 78767-0098
All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED January 9, 2015.
GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON & MOODY
A Professional Corporation
P.O. Box 98
401 Congress, Suite 2200
Austin, Texas 78767-0098
512.480.5724 Telephone
512.480.5824 Fax
jowens@gddhm.com
By: /s/ Jillian M. Owens
State Bar ID No.: 24088168
Kevin Holcomb
State Bar ID No.: 09824000
ATTORNEYS FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF CHARLES WADE HAKIM
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of CHARLES WADE HAKIM were issued on January 6, 2015, in Cause No. C-1-PB-14-002168 pending in the Probate Court Number One, Travis County, Texas to ELODIE F. HAKIM. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned at the address below within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED: January 6, 2015
ELODIE F. HAKIM
Independent Executor
12317 Alcanza Dr.
Austin, Texas 78739

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ETHEL CLIFT MCGINNIS, DECEASED
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
Notice is hereby given that on January 6, 2015, Letters Testamentary were issued to: EDWARD CAMPBELL MCGINNIS by the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, in Cause Number C-1-PB-14-002193, pending upon the Probate Docket of said Court. All persons having claims against said estate are on notice of this administration and are hereby requested to present the same within the time prescribed by law to: THOMAS O. BARTON MCGINNIS, LOCHRIDGE & KILGORE, L.L.P., 600 Congress Avenue, Suite 2100 Austin, Texas 78701

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JAMES A. ALLEN
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Verne W. Ferguson, Deceased, were issued on December 30, 2014, in Cause No. C-1-PB-14-002099 pending in Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas, to Paul E. Ferguson, Jr. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Executor addressed as follows: Paul E. Ferguson, Jr., Independent Executor, Estate of Verne W. Ferguson, Deceased c/o Don E. Walden 8310-1 N. Capital of Texas Highway, Suite 305 Austin, Texas 78731
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this 6th day of January, 2015.
/s/ Don E. Walden
State Bar No. 20672800
8310-1 N. Capital of Texas Highway, Suite 305 Austin, Texas 78731
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are

required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this 6th day of January, 2015.
/s/ Don E. Walden
State Bar No. 20672800
8310-1 N. Capital of Texas Highway, Suite 305 Austin, Texas 78731
(512) 349-9595
(512) 795-8079 Fax
Attorney for Executor

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF KENNETH RAY FARABEE
Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. C-1-PB-14-002200, styled Estate of KENNETH RAY FARABEE, Deceased, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, original Letters Testamentary were issued on the 6th day of January, 2015, to STEVEN R. FARABEE (the "personal representative"). All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present same within the time prescribed by law, and before such estate is closed. The personal representative directs that claims be presented to said personal at the address shown below care of the attorney for said representative. STEVEN R. FARABEE c/o JOHN CALHOUN MILLER Attorney at Law 1509 Old W. 38th St. #3 Austin, Texas 78731 Email: jcalmiller@aol.com

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF RAYMOND D. RASCHKE
Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. C-1-PB-14-002198, styled Estate of RAYMOND D. RASCHKE, Deceased, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, original Letters Testamentary were issued on the 6th day of January, 2015, to DOUGLAS R. RASCHKE (the "personal representative"). All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present same within the time prescribed by law, and before such estate is closed. The personal representative directs that claims be presented to said personal at the address shown below care of the attorney for said representative. DOUGLAS R. RASCHKE c/o JOHN CALHOUN MILLER Attorney at Law 1509 Old W. 38th St. #3 Austin, Texas 78731 Email: jcalmiller@aol.com

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF VERNIE W. FERGUSON, DECEASED
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Verne W. Ferguson, Deceased, were issued on December 30, 2014, in Cause No. C-1-PB-14-002099 pending in Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas, to Paul E. Ferguson, Jr. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Executor addressed as follows: Paul E. Ferguson, Jr., Independent Executor, Estate of Verne W. Ferguson, Deceased c/o Don E. Walden 8310-1 N. Capital of Texas Highway, Suite 305 Austin, Texas 78731
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this 6th day of January, 2015.
/s/ Don E. Walden
State Bar No. 20672800
8310-1 N. Capital of Texas Highway, Suite 305 Austin, Texas 78731
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are

Austin, Texas 78731
(512) 349-9595
(512) 795-8079 Fax
Attorney for Executor

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Sealed proposals addressed to Cypress Ranch, Ltd. ("OWNER") on behalf of Cypress Ranch Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 ("DISTRICT") for furnishing all labor, materials, equipment, and performing all work required for the construction of CR WCID 1 - Water Plant Expansion: Pressure Tank will be received at the office of Texas Engineering Solutions, LLC ("ENGINEER") at 5000 Bee Caves Rd, Suite 206, Austin, Texas 78746 until **Friday, January 30th, 2015 at 2:00pm**. Bids will be opened publicly and read aloud. Any proposal received after the closing time will be returned unopened. Proposals shall be plainly marked with name and address of the BIDDER and the following words: PROPOSAL FOR CYPRESS RANCH WCID 1 – WATER PLANT EXPANSION: PRESSURE TANK
The CYPRESS RANCH WCID 1 – WATER PLANT EXPANSION: PRESSURE TANK proposal includes the addition of a 15,000 gallon steel hydropneumatic tank and associated controls and appurtenances, and disconnection of the existing 8,000 gallon hydropneumatic tank. All work must conform to State of Texas, County of Travis and Cypress Ranch Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 rules and criteria.
Copies of the Plans, Specifications, and Bidding Documents will be on file at the office of Texas Engineering Solutions at 5000 Bee Caves Rd, Suite 206, Austin, TX 78746, where they may be examined without charge. Copies may be examined or obtained from the ENGINEER on or after January 19th, 2015 for a non-refundable fee of \$75.00 per set, or you can request an electronic version. Checks for Plans and Specifications, and Bidding Documents shall be made payable to Texas Engineering Solutions.
A Cashier's Check, Certified Check or acceptable Bidder's Bond, payable to Cypress Ranch, Ltd. in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the Bid must accompany each bid as a guarantee that, if awarded the Contract, The BIDDER will enter into a contract and execute bonds within ten (10) days of award of the Contract. Performance and Payment Bonds shall also be executed on the forms furnished by the OWNER and shall specifically provide for "Performance" and for "Labor and Materials Payment". Each bond shall be issued in an amount of one hundred percent (100%) of contract price by a solvent Surety company, authorized to do business in the State of Texas and acceptable to the OWNER.
The OWNER reserves the right to reject any and all bids to waive any and all technicalities and formalities in bidding. The OWNER reserves the right to determine which bids are most advantageous to the OWNER and the DISTRICT, and to award the Contract on this basis. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of forty-

the **COMMON LAW**
by Luke Ellis will return on the
FIRST THURSDAY of EVERY MONTH

Until then, here's an UNCOMMON LAW
that you may need to be aware of:

In New York, it becomes illegal in February, 2015, to take a photo with a lion, tiger, or other big cat.

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Brezсны for January 16-22

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Most plants move upward as they grow. Their seeds fall to the ground, are blown off by the wind, or are carried away by pollinators. But the peanut plant has a different approach to reproduction. It burrows its seeds down into the soil. They ripen underground, where they are protected and more likely to get the moisture they need to germinate. The peanut plant's approach to fertility might be a good metaphor for you Capricorns to adopt for your own use. It makes sense for you to safeguard the new possibilities you're incubating. Keep them private, maybe even secret. Don't expose them to scrutiny or criticism.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): In his poem "The Garden," Jack Gilbert says, "We are like Marco Polo who came back/ with jewels hidden in the seams of his ragged clothes." Isn't that true about you right now, Aquarius? If I were going to tell your recent history as a fairy tale, I'd highlight the contrast between your outer disorder and your inner riches. I'd also borrow another fragment from Gilbert's poem and use it to describe your current emotional state: "a sweet sadness, a tough happiness." So what comes next for you? I suggest you treat yourself to a time out. Take a break to integrate the intensity you've weathered. And retrieve the jewels you hid in the seams of your ragged clothes.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): "All the colors I am inside have not been invented yet," wrote Shel Silverstein, in his children's book *Where the Sidewalk Ends*. It's especially important for you to focus on that truth in the coming weeks. I say this for two reasons. First, it's imperative that you identify and celebrate a certain unique aspect of yourself that no one else has ever fully acknowledged. If you don't start making it more conscious, it may start to wither away. Second, you need to learn how to express that unique aspect with such clarity and steadiness that no one can miss it or ignore it.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You will never make anything that lasts forever. Nor will I or anyone else. I suppose it's possible that human beings will still be listening to Beethoven's music or watching *The Simpsons* TV show 10,000 years from today, but even that stuff will probably be gone in 5 billion years, when the sun expands into a red giant star. Having acknowledged that hard truth, I'm happy to announce that in the next five weeks you could begin work in earnest on a creation that will endure for a very long time. What will it be? Choose wisely!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): What does your soul need on a regular basis? The love and attention of some special person? The intoxication provided by a certain drink or drug? Stimulating social interaction with people you like? Music that drives you out of your mind in all the best ways? The English poet Gerard Manley Hopkins said that the rapture his soul needed more than anything else was inspiration – the "sweet fire," he called it, "the strong spur, live and lancing like the blowpipe flame." So the experience his soul craved didn't come from an outside stimulus. It was a feeling that rose up inside him. What about you, Taurus? According to my analysis of the astrological omens, your soul needs much more than usual of its special nourishment.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): In 1987, California condors were almost extinct. Less than 30 of the birds remained. Then the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service launched an effort to capture them all and take emergency measures to save the species. Almost 28 years later, there are more than 400 condors, half of them living in the wild. If you act now, Gemini, you could launch a comparable recovery program for a different resource that is becoming scarce in your world. Act with urgency, but also be prepared to practice patience.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Daniel Webster (1782-1852) was an American statesman who served in both houses of Congress. He dearly wanted to be president of the United States, but his political party never nominated him to run for that office. Here's the twist in his fate: Two different candidates who were ultimately elected president asked him to be their vice president, but he declined, dismissing the job as unimportant. Both those presidents, Harrison and Taylor, died after a short time on the job. Had Webster agreed to be their vice president, he would have taken their place and fulfilled his dream. In the coming weeks, Cancerian, I advise you not to make a mistake comparable to Webster's.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): In one of his poems, Rumi writes about being alone with a wise elder. "Please," he says to the sage, "do not hold back from telling me any secrets about this universe." In the coming weeks, Leo, I suggest you make a similar request of many people, and not just those you regard as wise. You're in a phase when pretty much everyone is a potential teacher who has a valuable clue to offer you. Treat the whole world as your classroom.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Have you been tapping into your proper share of smart love, interesting beauty, and creative mojo? Are you enjoying the succulent rewards you deserve for all the good deeds and hard work you've done in the past eight months? If not, I am very upset. In fact, I would be livid and mournful if I found out that you have not been soaking up a steady flow of useful bliss, sweet revelations, and fun surprises. Therefore, to ensure my happiness and well-being, I COMMAND you to experience these goodies in abundance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Libran engineer Robert Goddard was the original rocket scientist. His revolutionary theories and pioneering technologies laid the foundations for space flight. Decades before the Soviet Union launched Sputnik, he and his American team began shooting rockets aloft. Members of the press were not impressed with his unusual ideas, however. They thought he was a misinformed crank. In 1920, *The New York Times* sneered that he was deficient in "the knowledge ladled out daily in our high schools." Forty-nine years later, after his work had led to spectacular results, the *Times* issued an apology. I foresee a more satisfying progression toward vindication for you, Libra. Sometime soon, your unsung work or unheralded efforts will be recognized.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): In the plot of the TV science-fiction show *Ascension*, the U.S. government has conducted an elaborate covert experiment for 50 years. An outside investigator named Samantha Krueger discovers the diabolical contours of the project and decides to reveal the truth to the public. "We're going full Snowden," she tells a seemingly sympathetic conspiracy theorist. She's invoking the name of Edward Snowden, the renegade computer administrator who in the real world leaked classified information that the U.S. government wanted to keep hidden. It might be time for you to go at least mini-Snowden yourself, Scorpio – not by spilling state secrets, but rather by unmasking any surreptitious or deceptive behavior that's happening in your sphere. Bring everything out into the open – gently if possible. But do whatever it takes.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): In 1939, author Ernest Vincent Wright finished *Gadsby*, a 50,000-word novel. It was unlike any book ever published because the letter "e" didn't appear once in the text. Can you imagine the constraint he had to muster to accomplish such an odd feat? In accordance with the astrological omens, I invite you to summon an equally impressive expression of discipline and self-control, Sagittarius. But devote your efforts to accomplishing a more useful and interesting task, please. For example, you could excise one of your bad habits or avoid activities that waste your time or forbid yourself to indulge in fearful thoughts.

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Brezсны's
EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES.
The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 877/873-4888 or 900/950-7700.

LEGAL cont.

five (45) days after opening of the bids. If a submitted bid is withdrawn within said period, bid guaranty shall become the property of the OWNER, not as penalty, but as liquidated damages, or OWNER may pursue any other action allowed by law. A **non-mandatory** pre-bid conference will be held on **Friday, January 23rd, 2015 at 10:00am** at the West Cypress Hills Amenity Center located at 5620 Cypress Ranch Blvd, Spicewood, Texas 78669. Prospective bidders are encouraged to visit the site before or after the meeting.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Alberta H. Hawkins, Deceased, were issued on December 4, 2014 in Cause No. C-1-PB-14-001919, pending in the County Probate Court, Travis County, Texas, to James S. Hawkins. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate addressed as follows: Representative, Estate of Alberta H. Hawkins, Deceased
c/o Paul D. Angenend
Angenend & Augustine, P.C.
3445 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100
Austin, Texas 78731
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED this 12th day of January, 2015.
ANGENEND & AUGUSTINE, P.C.
By: /s/ Paul D. Angenend

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary in the Estate of Marilyn Cherrington Horvath, Deceased, were issued on December 16, 2014, in Cause No. C-1-PB-14-001967 in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Jeff Horvath. All persons having claims against the Estate of Marilyn Cherrington Horvath should present those claims within the time and in the manner prescribed by law to Lindsey Peebles, Attorney for Jeff Horvath, PO Box 302126, Austin, Texas 78703. Dated December 17, 2014, Lindsey M Peebles, Attorney for Independent Executor.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of Benjamin David Franklin Hanson, Deceased, were issued on December 9, 2014, in Cause No. C-1-PB-14-001571, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: David Mitchell Hanson. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o: David Mitchell Hanson
Representative, Estate of Benjamin David Franklin Hanson
101 Eastern Ave.
Bel Aire, Maryland 21014
OR
John G. Lione, Jr.
Attorney for David Mitchell Hanson
312 West University Ave.
Georgetown, TX 78626
DATED the 6th day of January, 2015.
/s/ John G. Lione, Jr.
Attorney for David Mitchell Hanson
State Bar No.: 12394500
312 West University Ave.
Georgetown, TX 78626
Telephone: (512) 441-1411
Facsimile: (512) 469-2975
E-mail: jlione@thefowlerlaw-firm.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of Charles Edmund Poutas, Deceased, were issued on July 29, 2014, in Cause No. C-1-PB-14-000876, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis

County, Texas, to: Helena Romell. - All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. - c/o: Susan J. Haney – The Haney Law Firm, 808 W. 10th Street, Suite 100, Austin, Texas, 78701, Telephone: (512) 476-2212, Fax: (512) 476-2202 78701. DATED the 7th day of January, 2015. – Susan J. Haney, State Bar No. 08908550, Attorney for Helena Romell.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of Bertha Arnold, Deceased, were issued on December 2, 2014, in Cause No. C-1-PB-14-001714, pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Jonah M. Hutchins. The notice to the Independent Administrator may be delivered at the following address: c/o Barnes Lipscomb Stewart & PLLC, Attorneys at Law
2901 Bee Caves Road, Box D Austin, Texas 78746
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 16th day of January, 2015.
/s/ Barbara J. Lipscomb
Attorney for Independent Administrator

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Dale L. Walther, Deceased, were issued on January 6, 2015, in Cause No. C-1-PB-14-002158, pending in the Probate Court Number One, Travis County, Texas, to Carole S. Jakubczak, as Independent Executor. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate addressed as follows: Representative, Estate of Dale L. Walther, Deceased
c/o Walter C. Guebert
Walter C. Guebert, P.C.
5900 Balcones Drive, Suite 190 Austin, Texas 78731
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED this 6th day of January, 2015.
WALTER C. GUEBERT, P.C.
By: /s/ Walter C. Guebert

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Gary Hal Wilcox, Deceased, were issued on January 8, 2015, under Cause No. C-1-PB-14-002162, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to Patricia Oates Wilcox. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows: Representative, Estate of Gary Hal Wilcox, Deceased
c/o Kenneth W. Pajak, Esq.
Pajak Law, PLLC
2705 Bee Cave Road, Suite 230 Austin, Texas 78746
All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 8th day of January, 2015.
/s/ Kenneth W. Pajak, Esq.
Attorney for Estate
State Bar No. 24007797
2705 Bee Cave Road, Suite 230 Austin, Texas 78746
(512) 774-4030
(844) 300-3315 Facsimile

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Linda L. Zlnk, aka Linda Louise Zink, Deceased, were issued on January 8, 2015, in Cause No. C-1-PB-14-002138, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: Robert W. Dudnick. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o: Brad Wiewel
Attorney at Law
1601 Rio Grande St., Ste. 550 Austin, TX 78701

DATED the 16th day of January, 2015.
/s/ Candice Bocock
Attorney for Robert W. Dudnick

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of OUIDA DENT WHITESIDE, Deceased, were issued on December 18, 2014, in Cause No. C-1-PB-14-002100, pending in the Probate Court No. One, Travis County, Texas, to: William Robin Whiteside. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o: Law Offices of Guy F. Gebbia, P.C.
1505 W. Koenig Lane Austin, TX 78756
DATED the 8th day of January, 2015.
/s/ Guy F. Gebbia, P.C.
Attorney for William Robin Whiteside
State Bar No.: 07786380
1505 W. Koenig Lane Austin, TX 78756
Telephone: (512) 450-1422
Facsimile: (512) 450-1799

NOTICE TO CREDITORS of the Estate of Beatrice Opel Louk, Deceased
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Beatrice Opel Louk, Deceased, were issued on January 6, 2015, in Cause No. C-1-PB-14-002183, pending in the Travis County Probate Court #1 of Travis County, Texas, to Walter L. Louk, Jr., Independent Executor. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate, addressed as follows: Mr. Walter L. Louk, Jr., Independent Executor for the Estate of Beatrice Opel Louk, Deceased
c/o Mr. Roy O. Smithers
LAW OFFICE OF ROY O. SMITHERS, P.C.
4200-A Manchaca Road Austin, Texas 78704
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to Roy O. Smithers, Attorney, within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 12th day of January, 2015.
LAW OFFICE OF ROY O. SMITHERS, P.C.
By: /s/ Roy O. Smithers, Attorney for Independent Executor

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for the **DEER CREEK SUBSTANDARD ROAD IMPROVEMENTS (IFB No. B1412-014-JE)**, a Project consisting primarily of REHABILITATION OF EXISTING ROADWAYS WITHIN THE **DEER CREEK SUBDIVISION (PRECINCT THREE)** in Travis County, will be received electronically through **www.bidsync.com**. **Bids will be accepted until 2:00 P. M. CST, JANUARY 28, 2015**, then publicly opened and read aloud. Travis County will also accept paper bids received by Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, marked "Sealed Bid (DEER CREEK SUBSTANDARD ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, IFB No. B1412-014-JE)" at the Travis County Purchasing Office, 700 Lavaca Street, Ste. 800, Austin, TX 78701. Note: The Time-Date Stamp Clock located at the front counter of the Travis County Purchasing Office will serve as the **OFFICIAL CLOCK** for the purpose of verifying the date and time of receipt of paper bids. You may print the Plans and Specifications through **www.bidsync.com**. In the event of a large file size, please be patient when downloading or viewing. Hard copies (printed) of Plans and Specifications may also be obtained from the Travis County Purchasing Office for a refundable deposit of \$100.00 in the form of a cashier's check, money order, or company check payable to "Travis County." The deposit will be refunded if the Plans and Specifications are returned in good condition within 21 calendar days of the bid opening. In addition, Plans and Specifications will be made available for viewing free of charge at various Austin-area Plan Rooms. A bid security in the amount

of five percent (5%) of the total bid amount will be required. **IF A COPY OF THE BID SECURITY IS SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH WWW.BIDSYNC.COM, AN ORIGINAL AND ONE COPY WILL BE DUE (BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS) ONE BUSINESS DAY AFTER THE BID OPENING DATE.** Payments will be made for completed work in progressive payments with the County retaining five percent (5%) of each payment until final acceptance of the Project. Payments will be made by check. A Payment Bond is required in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$25,000. A Performance Bond is required in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$100,000. Bidders should use lump sum pricing. Project performance period is 90 calendar days. If the contractor fails to complete the Project in the working days specified, liquidated damages of \$550.00 per day of delay will be assessed. Historically Underutilized Businesses including Contractors, Subcontractors, and Suppliers are encouraged to participate in this project consistent with the goals of the Travis County Commissioners Court. Contractors will be required to comply with all applicable Equal Employment Opportunity laws and regulations, all Federal, State, and local regulations for construction safety and health standards. The successful bidder must commence work upon issuance by County of a written Notice to Proceed. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in the bids received. Bids may not be withdrawn for ninety (90) calendar days after the date on which they are opened. Estimated project budget range is \$140,000 - \$180,000. **THERE ARE ALTERNATES AND/OR UNIT PRICES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS BID. BIDDERS MUST DOWNLOAD AND COMPLETE THE ASSOCIATED BID PROPOSAL WORKSHEET (LOCATED IN THE "DOCUMENTS" SECTION OF THIS BID) THEN UPLOAD AND SUBMIT IT WITH THEIR BID. FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE BID PROPOSAL WORKSHEET MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR BID.**

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for the Replacement of HVAC System Rooftop Unit (RTU) W-1 at the Ray Martinez Office Building (IFB No. B1501-003-JT), a Project consisting primarily of the removal and replacement of an existing HVAC system rooftop unit at the Ray Martinez Office Building, located at 4011 McKinney Falls Parkway in Austin, Texas in Travis County, will be received electronically through **www.bidsync.com**. **Bids will be accepted until 2:00 P.M. CST, February 4, 2015**, then publicly opened and read aloud. Travis County will also accept paper bids received by Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, marked "Sealed Bid WELLS BRANCH PARKWAY EXTENSION/NE METRO PARK SOUTH ENTRANCE ROAD PROJECT (IFB No. B1412-009-JW)" at the Travis County Purchasing Office, 700 Lavaca Street, Ste. 800, Austin, TX 78701. Note: The Time-Date Stamp Clock located at the front counter of the Travis County Purchasing Office will serve as the **OFFICIAL CLOCK** for the purpose of verifying the date and time of receipt of paper bids. You may print the Plans and Specifications through **www.bidsync.com**. In the event of a large file size, please be patient when downloading or viewing. Hard copies (printed) of Plans and Specifications may also be obtained from the Travis County Purchasing Office for a refundable deposit of \$100.00 in the form of a cashier's check, money order, or company check payable to "Travis County." The deposit will be refunded if the Plans and Specifications are returned in good condition within 21 calendar days of the bid opening. In addition, Plans and

Specifications will be made available for viewing free of charge at various Austin-area Plan Rooms. **AN OPTIONAL PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 21, 2015 AT 2:30 P.M., C.S.T. AT THE RAY MARTINEZ OFFICE BUILDING, 4011 MCKINNEY FALLS PARKWAY, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78744.** A bid security in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total bid amount will be required. **IF A COPY OF THE BID SECURITY IS SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH WWW.BIDSYNC.COM, AN ORIGINAL AND ONE COPY WILL BE DUE (BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS) ONE BUSINESS DAY AFTER THE BID OPENING DATE.** Payments will be made for completed work in progressive payments with the County retaining five percent (5%) of each payment until final acceptance of the Project. Payments will be made by check. A Payment Bond is required in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$25,000. A Performance Bond is required in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$100,000. Bidders should use lump sum pricing. PROJECT PERFORMANCE PERIOD IS 90 CALENDAR DAYS. IF THE CONTRACTOR FAILS TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT IN THE WORKING DAYS SPECIFIED, LIQUIDATED DAMAGES OF \$400.00 PER DAY OF DELAY WILL BE ASSESSED. Historically Underutilized Businesses including Contractors, Subcontractors, and Suppliers are encouraged to participate in this project consistent with the goals of the Travis County Commissioners Court. Contractors will be required to comply with all applicable Equal Employment Opportunity laws and regulations, all Federal, State, and local regulations for construction safety and health standards. The successful bidder must commence work upon issuance by County of a written Notice to Proceed. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in the bids received. Bids may not be withdrawn for ninety (90) calendar days after the date on which they are opened. Estimated project range is \$80K - \$90K. **OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS**
Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for the **WELLS BRANCH PARKWAY EXTENSION/NE METRO PARK SOUTH ENTRANCE ROAD PROJECT (IFB No. B1412-009-JW)**, a project consisting primarily of a) construction of roadway improvements and extension, including driveways, curb and gutters, sidewalks, storm drainage, water quality facility, and drainage channels for Wells Branch Parkway from Immanuel Road to one (1) mile west of Cameron Road at Killingsworth Lane East; and b) construction of roadway improvements and extension, including driveways, curb and gutters, storm drainage systems, and bridge for the NE Metro Park south entrance road, in Travis County Precinct 2, will be received electronically through **www.bidsync.com**. **Bids will be accepted until 2:00 P. M. CST, JANUARY 28, 2015**, then publicly opened and read aloud. Travis County will also accept paper bids received by Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, marked "Sealed Bid WELLS BRANCH PARKWAY EXTENSION/NE METRO PARK SOUTH ENTRANCE ROAD PROJECT (IFB No. B1412-009-JW)" at the Travis County Purchasing Office, 700 Lavaca Street, Ste. 800, Austin, TX 78701. Note: The Time-Date Stamp Clock located at the front counter of the Travis County Purchasing Office will serve as the **OFFICIAL CLOCK** for the purpose of verifying the date and time of receipt of paper bids. Estimated Construction Budget Range: \$13,000,000.00 - \$13,250,000.00 You may print the Plans and Specifications through **www.bidsync.com**. Hard copies (printed) of Plans and Specifica-

tions may also be obtained from the Travis County Purchasing Office for a refundable deposit of \$100.00 in the form of a cashier's check, money order, or company check payable to "Travis County." The deposit will be refunded if the Plans and Specifications are returned in good condition within 21 calendar days of the bid opening. In addition, Plans and Specifications will be made available for viewing free of charge at various Austin-area Plan Rooms. A bid security in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total bid amount will be required. IF A COPY OF THE BID SECURITY IS SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH WWW.BIDSYNC.COM, AN ORIGINAL AND ONE COPY WILL BE DUE (BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS) ONE BUSINESS DAY AFTER THE BID OPENING DATE. Payments will be made for completed work in progressive payments with the County retaining five percent (5%) of each payment until final acceptance of the project. Payments will be made by check. A Payment Bond is required in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$25,000. A Performance Bond is required in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$100,000. Project performance period is 275 WORKING days. Historically Underutilized Businesses including Contractors, Subcontractors, and Suppliers are encouraged to participate in this project consistent with the goals of the Travis County Commissioners Court. Contractors will be required to comply with all applicable Equal Employment Opportunity laws and regulations, all Federal, State, and local regulations for construction safety and health standards. The successful bidder must commence work upon issuance by County of a written Notice to Proceed. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in the bids received. Bids may not be withdrawn for ninety (90) calendar days after the date on which they are opened.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO PROPOSERS TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1. Professional Holistic Family Services, 1412-002-DW
Opens: February 4, 2015 @ 3:00 p.m.

Proposals should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, 700 Lavaca Street, Suite 800, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Proposal Documents can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Proposers should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payments may be made by check. The successful proponent shall be required to furnish a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

PUBLISHED NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that Letters of Independent Administration with Will Annexed for the Estate of BRUNHILDE REICHERT MCLEOD were issued on January 6, 2015 in Cause Number C-1-PB-14-002026 in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas to MICHAEL ANDREW MCLEOD.

Claims may be presented in care of the Executor of the Estate addressed as follows: The address of record for MICHAEL ANDREW MCLEOD is 703 Emerald Wood Drive, Austin, Texas 78745, Travis County. All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 6th day of January, 2015.

/s/ MICHAEL ANDREW MCLEOD, Independent Administrator of the Estate BRUNHILDE REICHERT

MCLEOD, Deceased

SALE Security Self Storage, under Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, hereby gives Notice of Sale under Said Act, to wit: **On JANUARY 27, 2015 at 2 P.M. at 1515 S. Lamar, Austin, TX 78704.** Security Self Storage will conduct a sale by sealed bids for each unit in its entirety to the highest bidder for cash, of the contents of the following units to satisfy a landlord's lien. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any property from sale. The public is invited to bid on said units. #F-07 Thomas Cotelleso: Kayaks (2), fire wood, misc. #H-16 Ira Ford Jr. Wheelchair, sleeping bag, clothes, books, misc. #R-10 Anthony Gutierrez: Desk, nightstands, mattress, box spring, misc. #T-16 Cynthia Ann Pecore: Chairs, boxes, pictures, bed frame, misc.

SALE Security Self Storage, under Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, hereby gives Notice of Sale under Said Act, to wit: **On JANUARY 27, 2015 at 2 P.M. at 1507 W William Cannon, Austin, TX 78745.** Security Self Storage will conduct a sale by sealed bids for each unit in its entirety to the highest bidder for cash, of the contents of the following units, to satisfy a landlord's lien. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any property from sale. The public is invited to bid on said units. #D-33 Joshua Knott: Golf clubs, boxes, totes, clothes, end tables, misc. #L-02 Melissa Guzman: Fan, bag.

SALE Security Self Storage, under Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, hereby gives Notice of Sale under Said Act, to wit: **On JANUARY 27, 2015 at 2 P.M. at 10210 N Lamar, Austin, TX 78753.** Security Self Storage will conduct a sale by sealed bids for each unit in its entirety to the highest bidder for cash, of the contents of the following units to satisfy a landlord's lien. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any property from sale. The public is invited to bid on said units. #B-08 Michael Tovar: Boxes, pictures. #J-14 Darien Hall: Boxes, mattress, box spring, headboard, bed rails, end table, chest of drawers, misc. R-12 Lindsay Kim Conley: Kayak, desk drawer.

STOR SELF STORAGE In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner's lien of the goods hereinafter described and stored at Stor Self Storage locations listed below; And due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having disposed of on the following dates. No one under 16 allowed. Cash only! **Stor Self Storage, 2201 Kinney Rd, Austin TX 78704 512-445-6000**

January 27, 2015 11:00 AM Kelsey Krohn - 7 Hair salon chairs, sofa, 2 hair washing sinks, nail station, 2 stylist work station/stands, 15 boxes, head warmers
Stor Self Storage, 2508 Pecan Street, Pflugerville, TX 78660 512-990-1000
January 27, 2015 11:30 AM Carson Hoffman - Car seat, flat screen TV, clothes, boxes, mirror, lamp

STORAGE UNIT AUCTION
Thurs Jan. 29th, 2015 @ EAST CENTRAL STORAGE A public auction will be held to satisfy landlord's lien pursuant to chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, to be held at 11:00 a.m. at 3222 E. 5th St, Austin, Tx. 78702. 512.385.5801 Auction at East Central Storage- Airport 853 Airport blvd. to follow at 12. All units sold to the highest bidder for CASH or CREDIT CARD only. Clean up and removal deposit required. Seller reserves the right to reject any bid. Sale includes misc. personal and household items from the following tenant's storage spaces: ECS-Valerie Garza 56; ECS Airport- Maria Casarez 127, Catherine Cowden 159, Frank Salazar 35, Lelton Edwards 19. UNITS MAY BE DELETED.

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SERVICES Here's today's "TO DO" list: Hire movers. Install toilet. Hire designer to set up website. File taxes. Learn Spanish. Where to start? *The Austin Chronicle's* Service section.

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